

Chess Room Newsletter

Issue #1042 | October 14, 2023 | Gens Una Sumus!

It's National Chess Day!



Round One of the Fall TNM saw **Rayna Yan** pitted against **Fernando Toledo Guerrero**.

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Recent Tournaments at Mechanics' Institute

On September 9, Mechanics' Institute hosted our monthly double-header of **Scholastic Swiss** in the morning, **Quads** in the afternoon.

The Quads had a great turnout of 62 players competing in 15 sections, with **Baasansuren Erdene** (2282) taking clear 1st in the top quad with 2.5 points.

Complete results for the September Quads can be found [here](#).

The September Scholastic Swiss saw 21 players competing in 2 sections.

Enzo Steiger (995) scored a perfect 4-0 to take clear 1st in the In the 700+ section. Tied for 2nd and 3rd were **Keshav Raman** (881) and **Miles Krepelka** (704) with 3 points apiece. In 4th place was **Zane Chu** (746) with 2.5 points, and rounding out the prize-winners was **Araddhya Tibrewall** (1038) with 2 points.

Blaise Haudenschild (366) scored 3.5 -.5 and took clear 1st in the u700 section. **Maxim Denis** (534) and **Keanu Chow** (369) tied for 2nd and 3rd places with 3 points each. **Josh Kyauk** (451) scored 2.5 points and took clear 4th, while **Jimmy Harvey** (377) took 5th place with 2 points.

Complete results for the September Scholastic Swiss can be found [here](#).

Both the September Quads and the September Scholastic Swiss were directed by Local TD **Arthur Liou**.

Despite two other events held simultaneously in the Bay Area on the weekend of September 16-17, the **51st Carroll Capps Memorial** had a strong showing of 45 participants competing in two sections.

Sasha Kagle (1979) and **Kian Jamali** (1649) tied for 1st place in the 1600+ section with 3.5 -.5 scores. Splitting 3rd place, best u2200, and best u1800, with all scoring 3 points, were **Francoise Buchs** (2100), **Zee Chin** (1765), **Prescott Yu** (1658), and **Reyansh Gupta** (1645). Scoring 2.5 points apiece in a 5-way tie for best u2000 were **Rayna Yan** (1519), **Anshul Govindu** (1902), **Itai Reingold-Nutman** (1868), **Stewart Katz** (1824), and **Matthew Castillon** (1816). There was a 2-way split for best u1600 between **Sriaditya Pendyala** (1421) and **Hoa Long Tam** (1443). Both scored 2 points.

Hayes Alexander Marvin (1523) won the u1600 section outright with 3.5 points. Tying for 2nd and 3rd with 3 points each were **Pratyush Hule** (1427) and **Chain Singh** (1394). Tied for best u1400 were **Rakshita Dhanasekar** (1323) and **Sri Ansh Dumpala** (1345) with 2.5 points apiece, and the best u1200 prize went to **Aashvi Sri Rangamreddy** (1072), also with 2.5 points.

Complete results for the 51st Carroll Capps Memorial can be found [here](#).

The 51st Carroll Capps Memorial was directed by National Arbiter **Scott Mason**.

Here is a game from the event:

□ Yan, Rayna

■ Lien, Henry

Capps Memorial (1)

17.09.2023

[FM Paul Whitehead]

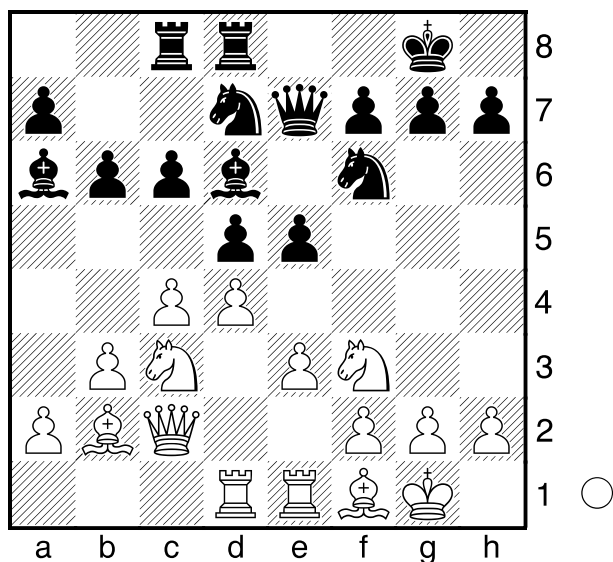
7-year old Rayna Yan is the younger sister of FM Ruiyang Yan. Here she shows remarkable resiliency in attack and defense to take down a considerably more experienced opponent. **1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 e6 5.e3 Nbd7 6.Qc2 Bd6 7.b3 b6 8.Be2 Ba6 9.0-0 0-0 10.Bb2 Rc8 11.Rad1 Qe7 12.Rfe1 Rfd8 13.Bf1!** Sets a trap that black walks into...

[13.c5? doesn't work yet: Bxe2
14.cxd6 Bxd1 15.dxe7 Bxc2
16.exd8Q+ Rxd8 black is a pawn
ahead.]

13...e5?

[13...c5]

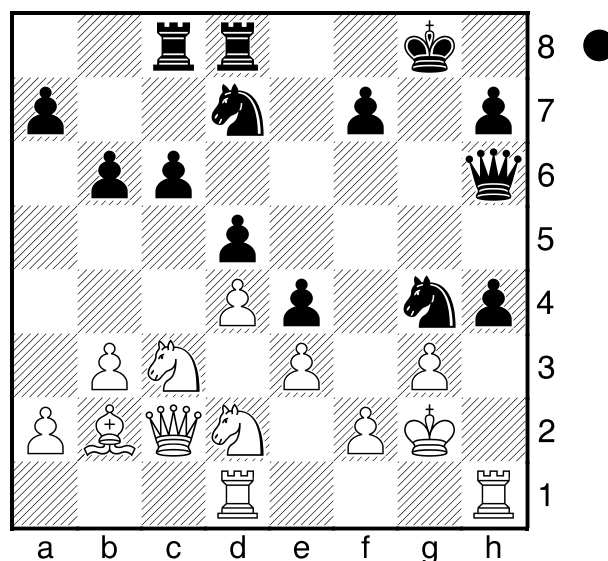
[13...dxc4]



14.c5! Bxf1 15.cxd6 Qxd6 16.Rxf1 e4 17.Nd2?!

[17.Ne5! Nxe5 18.dxe5 Qxe5
19.Nxd5+-]

17...Ng4 18.g3 Qh6 19.h4 g5 20.Kg2 gxh4 21.Rh1



Qxe3! An ingenious try. **22.Nf1 Qf3+ 23.Kg1 hxg3 24.Nxg3?**

[24.fxg3±]

24...f5

[24...e3! and white is in trouble. If
25.Qxh7+ Kf8-+]

25.Qe2! Qxe2 26.Ncxe2 Rf8 27.Nf4 e3 28.fxe3 Nxe3 29.Re1 Rce8 30.Kf2 Nf6 31.Ba3? Seeking a tactical solution, but losing the d-pawn.

[31.Kf3+-]

31...Nfg4+ 32.Kf3 Nc2! 33.Rxe8 Nxd4+ 34.Kg2 Rxe8 35.Bb2 Ne6 36.Nfh5 f4 37.Ne2 Rf8?!

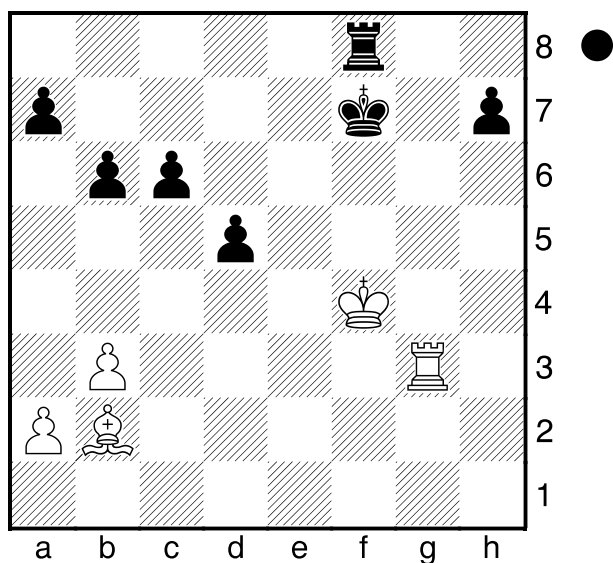
[37...c5 38.Nhxf4 Nxf4+ 39.Nxf4 d4=]

38.Kf3 Ne3 39.Rg1?!]

[39.Nf6+!+-]

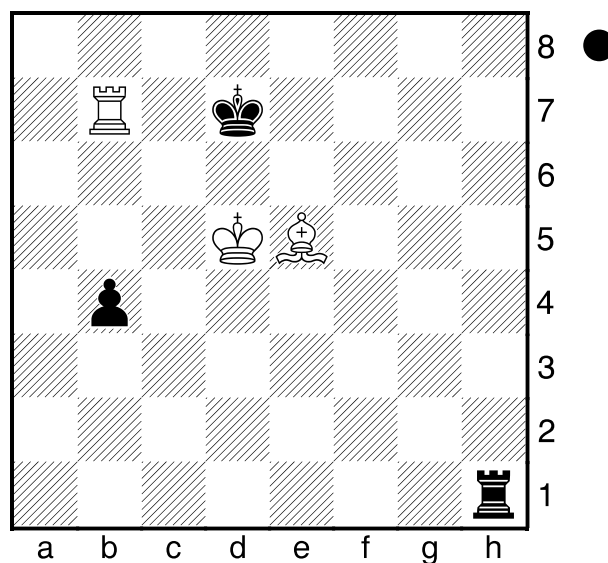
39...Kf7 40.Nhxf4 Nf5 41.Ng3 Nxg3 42.Rxg3 Nxf4 43.Kxf4

(Diagram)



The smoke has cleared and the position is equal. With white's a-pawn also queening on the 'wrong color' black should hold comfortably. What follows is a long game of 'cat and mouse'.

43...Ke6+ 44.Ke3 Rf7 45.Rg8 c5
46.Rh8 d4+ 47.Ke2 Rg7 48.Kf2 Kd5
49.Kf3 Rf7+ 50.Ke2 Rd7 51.Kd3 b5
52.Rc8 Rf7 53.Rd8+ Kc6 54.Ke4
Re7+ 55.Kd3 Re3+ 56.Kd2 Rg3
57.Rh8 Rg2+ 58.Kc1 Rg7 59.Ba3
Rc7 60.Kd2 Kd5 61.Rd8+ Ke4
62.Re8+ Kd5 63.Rg8 b4 64.Bc1 Rf7
65.Rg5+ Kc6 66.Ke2 a5 67.Rh5 a4
68.Rh6+ Kb5 69.Bg5 axb3 70.axb3
Rg7 71.Bd8 Rb7 72.Kd3 Rb8 73.Be7
Rg8 74.Bd6 Re8 75.Bc7 Re3+
76.Kc2 Rc3+ 77.Kb2 c4 78.bxc4+
Kxc4 79.Rxh7 Rb3+ 80.Kc2 d3+
81.Kd2 Rb2+ 82.Kc1 Rc2+ 83.Kd1
Kb3 84.Be5 Rg2 85.Rd7 Ka2 86.Rb7
Rg4 87.Kd2 Kb3 88.Kxd3 Rh4
89.Bd6 Rg4 90.Ke3 Rh4 91.Rc7 Rc4
92.Rg7 Rh4 93.Rg3 Rc4 94.Be5 Rc8
95.Kd2+ Ka4 96.Rg5 Kb3 97.Rg4
Rc4 98.Rg1 Ka4 99.Kd3 Rh4
100.Bd4 Kb5 101.Rg3 Kc6 102.Kc4
Re4 103.Rg6+ Kd7 104.Kd5 Re2
105.Rg7+ Re7 106.Rg6 Rh7 107.Rb6
Rh5+ 108.Be5 Rh1 109.Rb7+



Ke8??

[109...Kc8=]

[109...Kd8=]

110.Ke6 Rh6+ 111.Bf6 A great fight!
1-0

On Saturday September 23 the Mechanics' Institute hosted a **Full Day Quad** (G60+5) with 45 players competing.

The top quad was won by **Abhishek Handigol** (2177) with 2.5 points.

Complete results for the September Full Day Quads can be found [here](#).

The September Full Day Quads were directed by National Arbiter **Scott Mason**.

The **22nd J.J.Dolan Memorial** was held on Saturday, September 30, with 63 players competing in four sections.

Kian Jamali (1833) scored a perfect 4-0 to take clear 1st in the 2000+ section. Tied for 2nd and 3rd places with 2.5 points each were **Michael Xiao** (1818), **Sivavishnu Srinivasan** (1809), and **Advik Garg** (1809).

Jeremy Cawthon (1964) also scored a perfect 4-0 to take 1st in the 1600-1999 section. In a 4-way tie for 2nd and 3rd with 3 points apiece were **Zee Chin** (1765), **Marina Xiao** (1717), **Liri "Gogo" Dancig-Perlman** (1683), and **Pavel Kolezsnikov** (1625).

Samuel Agdamag (1462) went 4-0 as well, taking the 1200-1599 by a full point over **Tingxuan Liu** (1232) and **Samuel Lin** (1044).

And **Serhii Derevianko** (unr.) continued the trend in the u1200 section, scoring four points and finishing a point ahead of both **Arav Munjal** (980) and **Anthony Khludov** (896).

Complete results for the 22nd J.J. Dolan Memorial can be found [here](#).

The 22nd J.J. Dolan Memorial was directed by Local TD **Arthur Liou**, assisted by Local TD **Michael Hsu** and **Anthony Simich**.

On October 5 we hosted a **Thursday Night Rapid tournament** with 24 participants in two sections.

GM **Jacek Stopa** (2427) took clear 1st in the 1600+ section with 3.5 points from 4 games, drawing his final game with IM **Mark Heimann** (2520). Heimann tied with **Beilin Li** (2187) and **George Sanguinetti** (1900) for 2nd and 3rd places, each scoring 3 points.

Hayes Marvin (1597) scored a perfect 4-0 to take 1st place in the u1600 section. Sharing 2nd and 3rd a full point behind were **John Chan** (1502), **Felix Macnee** (1392), and **Michael Bracamontes** (1192).

Complete results for the Thursday Night Rapid can be found [here](#).

The Thursday Night Rapid was directed by National Arbiter **Scott Mason**.



Hayes Marvin (right), the winner of the u1600 section in the Thursday Night rapid, playing **Harrison Unruh** (left) in the 5th round of the Fall TNM.

The **2023 Fall Tuesday Night Marathon** kicked off on September 5 and runs until October 17 with 85 players competing in four sections.

Current standings for the 2023 Fall TNM can be found [here](#).

The 2023 Fall TNM is co-directed by National Arbiter **Scott Mason** and International Arbiter **Judit Sztaray**.

IM Elliott Winslow

A selection of annotated games from rounds two through six of the Fall TNM annotated by IM Elliott Winslow and the players. All the games from the current TNM can be found [here](#), and games from previous TNMs are in the Tournament [Archive](#).

Yan, Ruiyang **B32**

Kagle, Sasha Arthur **2357**
 2023 Fall TNM: 2000+ (2.1) 12.09.2023
[Winslow, Elliott]

Greetings, newsletterers! Let's start out with a provocative game by young but experienced Ruiyang Yan against Sasha Kagle. Ruiyang was already marked up for three half-point byes in her last three rounds. Meanwhile, she took those byes to play in the U.S. Women's Championship, where after seven rounds she has seven *more* half points! Let's hope she finds her mark and scores some wins in the last four rounds! **1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 e5** The unusual Lowenthal Variation of the Sicilian. I don't think it's refuted even now. **5.Nb5 a6 6.Nd6+ Bxd6 7.Qxd6 Qf6**

[On 7...Qe7 Shaw in *his* 1.e4 repertoire series has 8.Qxe7+ Ngxe7 9.c4! "playing for two results" (which he considers a big success).]

8.Qd1 The longstanding main line, and *quite* complicated.

[When P. Negi in his 1.e4 repertoire series has White play 8.Qxf6!? in a world of otherwise quite sharp continuations, one has to see there is some respect there.]

[Shaw on the other hand put in quite a bit of work on 8.Qc7!? with some wonderful lines. I might even have to learn that!]

8...Qg6 9.Nc3 d5!? The sharper line, although not by much.

[9...Nge7 is slightly more popular but not more successful. Again: a wild ride. 10.h4 h5 11.Bg5 d5 12.exd5 Nd4 13.Bd3 (13.Bxe7!? Kxe7 14.Bd3) 13...Bf5 14.Bxf5 Ndx5!]

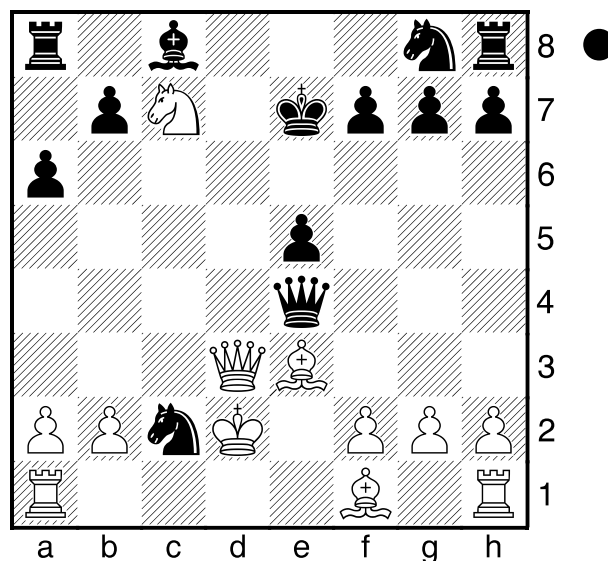
10.Nxd5 Qxe4+ 11.Be3 Nd4 12.Nc7+ Ke7 13.Qd3

[13.Rc1 Bg4 14.Qd3 Qxd3 15.Bxd3 Rd8 16.h3 is still up in the air: note Bh5 17.f4

A) 17...Kd6 18.c3!± (18.Nxa6!? bxa6 19.g4 Bg6 20.f5 and again, results don't match computer evaluation.) 18...Nc6! 19.Nxa6!± Computer: small plus for White. Results: solid edge for White but not so easy.;

B) 17...exf4]

13...Nxc2+ 14.Kd2



Bf5?? This loses to a flash attack.

[14...Qxd3+ 15.Bxd3 Nxe3 16.Nxa8 Nd5 17.Rac1 Ngf6 18.Nc7 Nb4!? (18...Nf4!? ½-½ Bressac, S (1931)-Tarchichi, P (2130) FRA-ch U18 Le Grand Bornand 2007 (6))

A) 19.Rhe1!? Kd6 (≤19...Nxa2 20.Rc4);

B) 19.Rc4 Nxd3 20.Kxd3 Bd7 21.Rhc1 Rd8 22.Ke2±;

C) 19.a3 Nxd3 20.Kxd3 Bd7= ½-½ Tiviakov, S (2520)-Inkiyov, V (2475) Torcy op-A 1991]

15.Bc5+!+- Kf6 16.Qd6+ Be6

[Nobody has ventured out to 16...Kg5 which doesn't change the result: 17.h4+! Kh5 18.Be2+ Bg4 19.Bxg4+ Qxg4 Black keeps avoiding some

pawn fork of queen and king, but it's too late. 20.Qxe5+ f5 21.Kxc2 and it's over. (or something like 21.Rag1!)]

17.Bd3 Qf4+

[17...Qxg2 18.Nxa8 e4 19.Bxc2 1-0 Speelman,J (2490)-Bielczyk,J (2380) Olympiad-24 Valetta 1980 (4)]

18.Kxc2 Rc8 19.Nd5+

1-0

□ **Hao,Max**

■ **Bambou,Christophe**

2023 Fall TNM: 2000+ (2.3) 12.09.2023
[Winslow,Elliott]

D27

1986

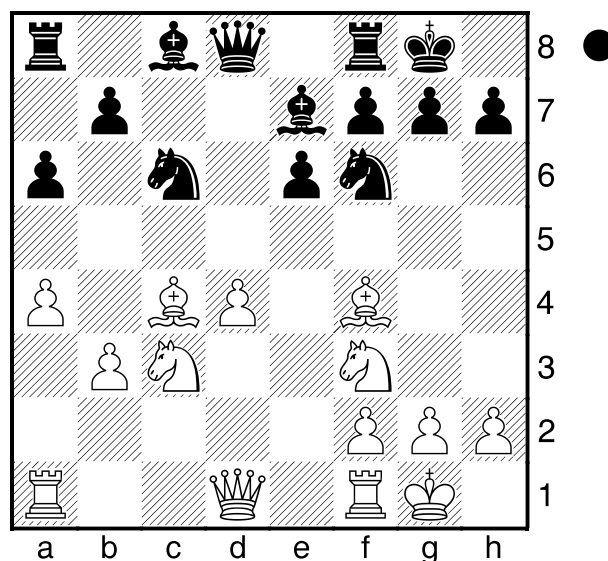
2093

A nice shot by Bambou puts this game away. **1.d4 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3.e3 Nf6 4.Bxc4 e6 5.Nf3 c5 6.0-0 Nc6 7.Nc3 a6 8.a4 Be7 9.b3**

[Relevant: 9.dxc5 Qxd1 10.Rxd1 Bxc5 11.Ne1 0-0 12.Be2 Bd7 13.Nd3 Be7 14.Rb1 Rac8 15.Bd2 Rfd8 16.b4 Be8 17.Be1 Na7 18.Bf3 Bc6 19.Bxc6 Nxc6 20.Kf1 1-0 (38) Kovalenko,I (2674)-Dominguez Perez,L (2739) ChessKid Cup Play In Chess.com INT blitz 2023 (6)]

9...cxd4 10.exd4 0-0 11.Bf4

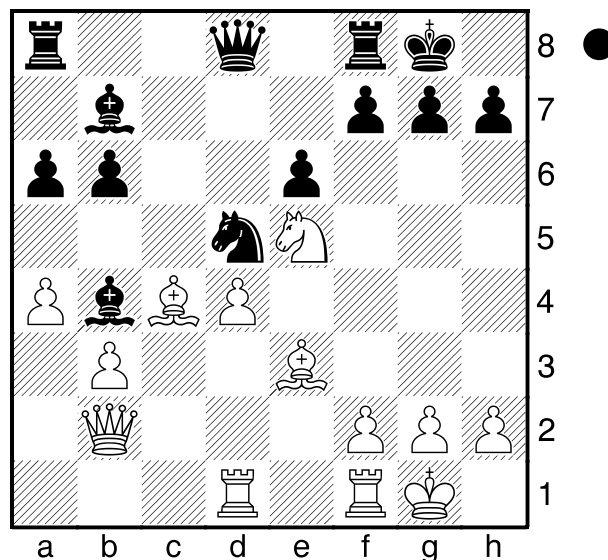
(Diagram)



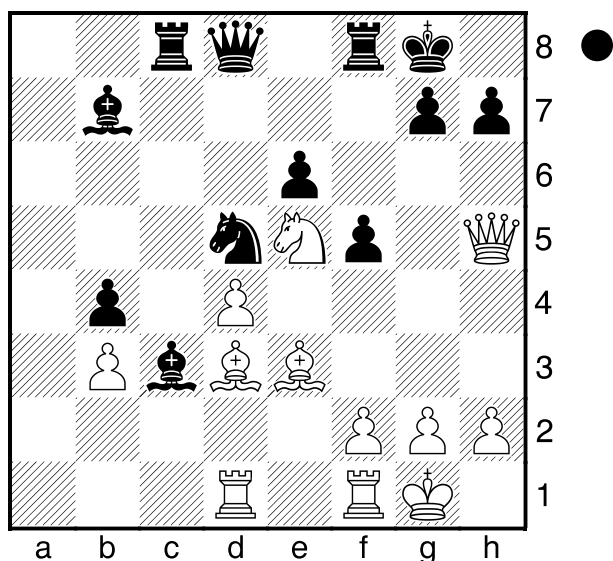
Nb4N

[Predecessor: 11...Nd5 12.Bxd5 exd5 13.Ne5 Nxe5 14.Bxe5 Be6 15.Qf3 Rc8 16.h3 Bb4 17.Rfc1 Qg5 18.Ne2 f6 19.Bc7 Qf5 20.Qxf5 Bxf5 21.Nf4 ½-½ (41) Sahidi,S (2415)-Pacher,M (2409) Piestany Slovakia op 2021 (5)]

12.Qd2 b6 13.Rac1 Bb7 14.Ne5 Nbd5 15.Nxd5 Nxd5 16.Be3 Ba3 17.Rcd1 Bb4 18.Qb2



b5 19.Bd3 Rc8 20.axb5 axb5 21.Rc1 Bc3 22.Qe2 b4 23.Qh5 f5 24.Rcd1
(Diagram)



**Bxd4! 25.Nc4 Bxe3 26.fxe3 Rf6
27.e4 Rh6 28.Qf3 Nc3 29.Rd2 Qc7
30.g3 fxe4
0-1**

□ Tirouvingadama, Arivoli

■ Clemens, Kristian

2023 Fall TNM: 1600-1999 (2.12) 12.9.23
[Clemens, Kristian]

C47

1650

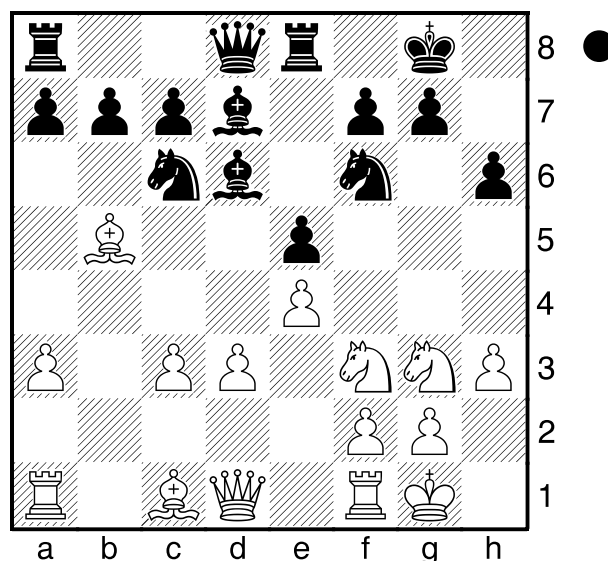
1906

(EW): An exciting game, which slipped away from Oli after excellent position pressure looked to be succeeding. Kristian's notes are insightful. **1.e4 e5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.Nf3 Nc6 4.a3** After the game, my opponent asked me what I thought of this move. I said it seems fine and transposes into a reversed Scotch position. He thought my next move was a little premature, but I feel comfortable playing d5 against non-threatening moves like a3, h3, and d3 as recommended by the Chessable course I took. **4...d5 5.Bb5 d4 6.Ne2**

[6.Nxe5 dxc3 (6...Qd6 7.Nc4 Qc5 8.b4 Qg5 9.Bxc6+ bxc6 I couldn't see all the way to the end of this line, but I think Black is OK here too with

the bishop pair and easier development.) 7.Nxc6 cxd2+ 8.Bxd2 bxc6 9.Bxc6+ Bd7 10.Bxa8 Qxa8 11.0-0 Bd6 I looked at this and thought Black has decent compensation for the material deficit.] [6.Nb1 is apparently the move preferred by theory. Both sides can afford slower development because the center is closed.]

6...Bd6 7.d3 h6 I only play moves like this when I'm taking away the opposing minor piece's best square. I didn't see much of a future for it on d2, although now I see that it should be fine after c3. I realized White could put a knight on f5, but I recently saw a game where Black (Botvinnik) played Kf8-g7 after g6 to preserve control of h6 while castling by hand. With the center closed, I thought I would have time for this. **8.h3 0-0 9.c3 dxc3 10.bxc3 Bd7** This looks like a pretty mechanical move, but it seems like a good idea to use my bishop on c5 to restrain his d4 break. That's hard to do when my knight is under attack, so I wanted to put my rook on e8 without dealing with a pin on the Nc6. **11.Ng3 Re8 12.0-0**



I think this position is about equal, but I

suffered from the famous affliction "no pawn break, no plan". White is trying to play d4, and I don't see many constructive ideas for Black other than "try to stop d4 and trade some pieces".

12...a6

[12...Bc5 13.Bb2]

13.Ba4 b5 14.Bc2 My last two moves were an attempt to get some space on the board before his inevitable d4 break, but I'm not convinced that they helped that much. The engine now suggests ...a5 and ...b4, undermining the d4 square, which seems pretty logical. **14...Be6**

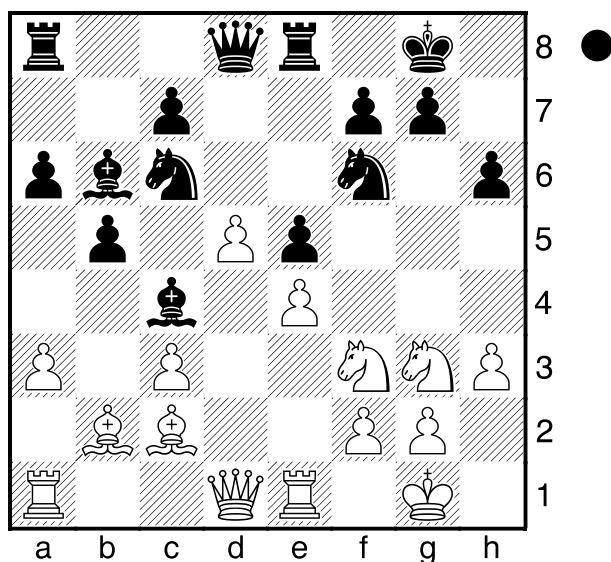
15.Re1 Bc5 16.Bb2 Bb6

[16...Qe7 17.d4 Rad8 looks a little more tenable, but the d-file pin is a temporary fix, and Black is going to be seriously short on space soon.]

17.d4 Bc4

[17...exd4 18.cxd4 Bc4 19.d5 Nb8 20.Nf5±]

18.d5



The backward c-pawn gave me a flashback to the first time I read Simple Chess by Michael Stean. The first game in the book is Botvinnik - Szilagyi, Amsterdam 1966, where Botvinnik used a weakened square to take control of the position in a similar structure. I

thought I could place a knight on c5 and exert pressure against e4 with ideas of Na4 if he ever moved his bishop from c2. **18...Na5 19.a4** Now White is trying to trade off his bishop on b2, and I decided to let him do it instead of worrying about the d6 break. This was a strategically very rich position, and I'm still not sure if that was the right decision.

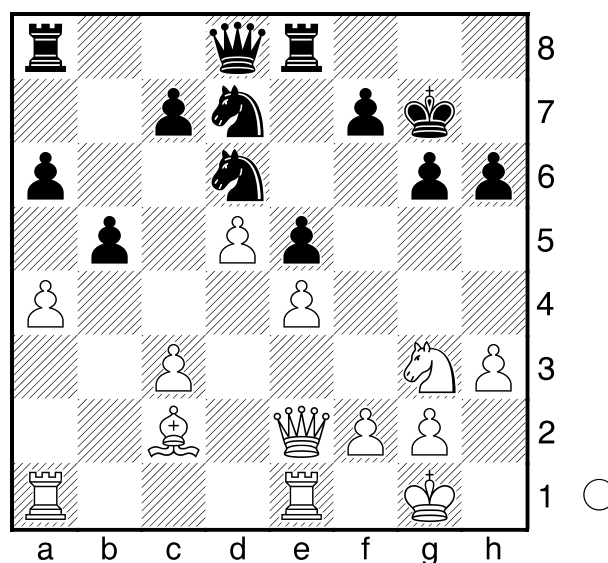
19...Bc5

[19...Qd7 20.axb5 axb5 21.Nf5 c6 22.d6 Rad8 This is recommended by the computer, but I really don't like this position for Black with the strong passed pawn and the knight on f5.]

20.Ba3 Bxa3 21.Rxa3 Nb7 Clearing the a-file and preparing to put a knight on d6, which is the logical blockading square given that he can't kick my knight with c4-c5. **22.Nd2 Nd6 23.Nxc4 Nxc4 24.Ra1 g6 25.Bb3**

[25.f4 I had to calculate the consequences of this move on several occasions in the middlegame. It doesn't work here, but the need to check it frequently started to take a toll on my time. exf4 26.Nf1 Ne5]

25...Nd6 26.Qe2 Nd7 27.Bc2 Kg7



Comparing this position to the one on move 17 shows that Black has made

some significant strategic progress. I eased my space issue, shut down his knight on g6, firmly blockaded the pawn on d5, and clamped down on the c4 square. Even so, White's pressure on b5 is annoying, and I found myself wishing my pawn were back on b7 so I could play a5, b6, Nc5. **28.Ra2**

[28.Bd3 bxa4 29.Rxa4 a5 30.Rea1 Nb7 31.Bb5 Re7 32.Nf1 Nb6 33.R4a3 Qd6 34.Ne3 It's hard to suggest an easy way for Black to improve his position further.]

28...Rb8 29.Bd3 Nc5

[29...bxa4 30.Rxa4 (30.Bxa6 Nc5 31.Bd3 Rb3) 30...Nc5 31.Ra5 Ndb7 32.Ra3]

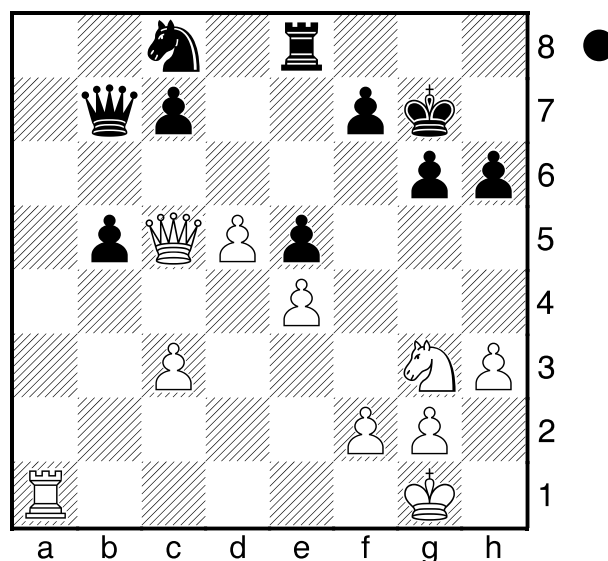
30.axb5 Nxd3 31.Qxd3 axb5

I assessed this as roughly equal, since White's space advantage is counterbalanced by Black's strong knight on d6 and the bleak future of White's knight. **32.Ra7 Ra8 33.Rea1 Rxa7 34.Rxa7** Now this was getting a little annoying for Black. White has a lot more activity; Black's queen and rook are very passive. I knew I needed to trade off one set of major pieces, since his queen and rook were better than mine, but my king and knight were better than his. **34...Qb8** to guard b5 while I play Nc8 to expel his rook **35.Qe3 Nc8 36.Ra1**

[There's nothing in 36.Ra5 Nd6 37.Qc5 Nb7 (37...Rc8)]

36...Qb7 37.Qc5!

(Diagram)

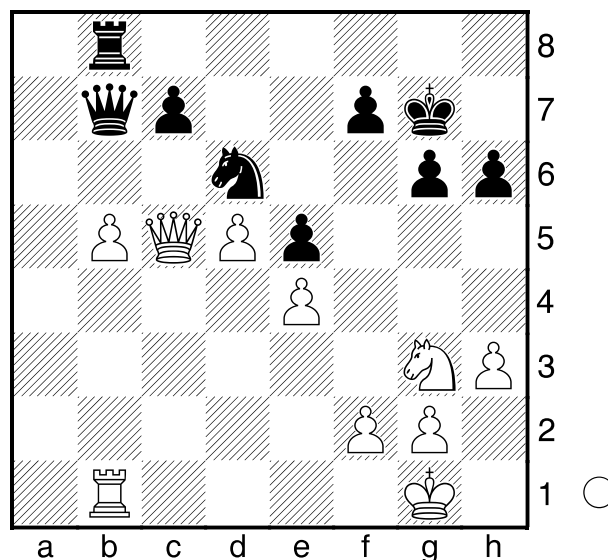


The perfect spot for the queen, attacking b5 and a7. **37...Re7** To guard against a future Ra7, which I would respond to with Qb8 after I play Nd6. **38.Rb1!** And now I saw White's point - the pawn is pinned, and c4 will be very strong.

38...Nd6 39.c4 Re8

[39...Nxc4 40.Qxe7]

40.cxb5 Rb8



My opponent and I discussed this position at length after the game. I considered it tough but not lost for Black. White said he was thinking of slowly improving his pieces in this position to

take advantage of my weak pawns on c7 and e5. We also looked at 41.b6...

41.f3?

[41.b6! (ew: +- (+2.66/25) SF16) Nc8 I wasn't scared of b6 during the game, but maybe I should have been, since Black doesn't have an easy game after getting the pawn back. 42.Rb4 Nxb6 (42...cxb6 43.Qc3 Qe7 44.f4 f6 45.Rc4±) 43.Qe7!]

41...Qb6!= 42.Qxb6 Rxb6 43.Kf2

Now i thought the worst had passed, and my plan was to win back the pawn on b5, put my king on d6 or d7 depending on his knight's placement, and liquidate my last big weakness and his passed pawn at the same time with ...c6. 43...Rxb5

44.Rxb5

[44.Rc1 Rb2+ 45.Kf1 Rb7 46.Ne2 Kf6 47.Rc6 Ke7=]

44...Nxb5 I considered this slightly worse for Black, but I thought saving this position would be of mild to moderate difficulty. 45.Ke3 Kf8 46.Kd3 Nd6

Keeping the king out of c4 and forcing it to take the long way via b4. I offered a draw somewhere around here. 47.Ne2

Ke7 48.Kc3

[48.f4 Kf6 49.g3 g5 50.f5

An interesting computer line.

Defending e4 is going to be a problem for White.]

48...Kd7 49.Kb4 c6 50.Kc5

I missed this move in my calculations, but fortunately it's still a draw. 50...cxd5

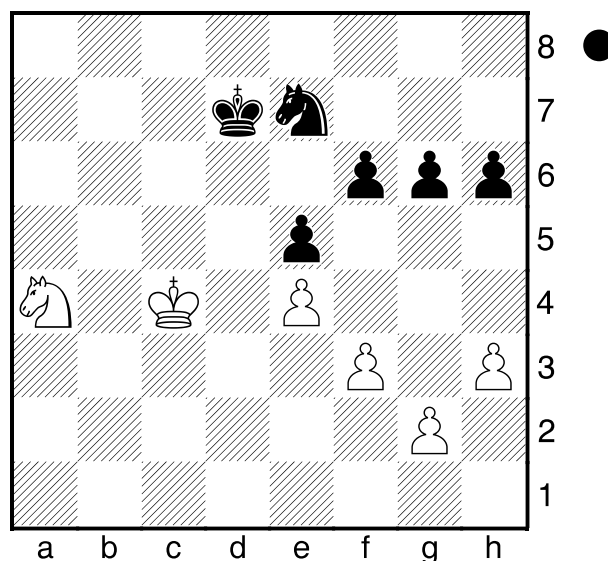
[50...Nb7+ 51.Kb6 Nd8 52.Nc3 cxd5 53.Nxd5=]

51.Kxd5 f6 52.Nc3 Nc8

[52...Ne8 53.Nb5 and I don't have Nc7+.]

53.Na4 Ne7+ 54.Kc4

(Diagram)



White offered a draw and Black accepted. Black was slightly ahead on the clock by the end, but this is a dead draw.

1/2-1/2

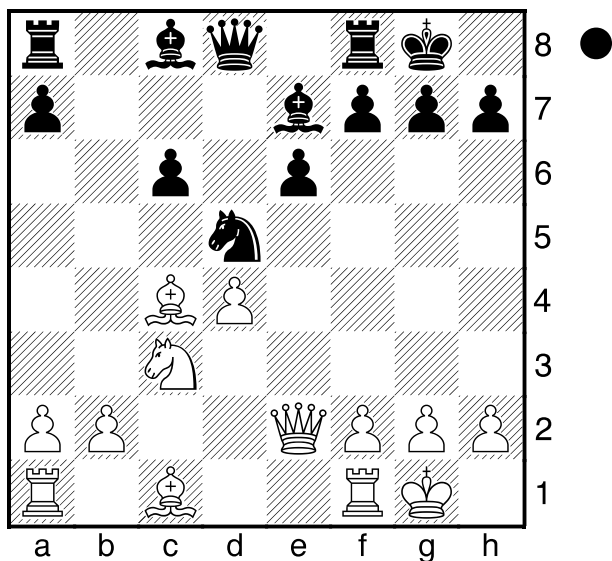
B22

□ **Bambou, Christophe** **2093**
 ■ **Yan, Ruiyang** **2357**
 2023 Fall TNM: 2000+ (3.1) 19.09.2023
 [Winslow, Elliott]

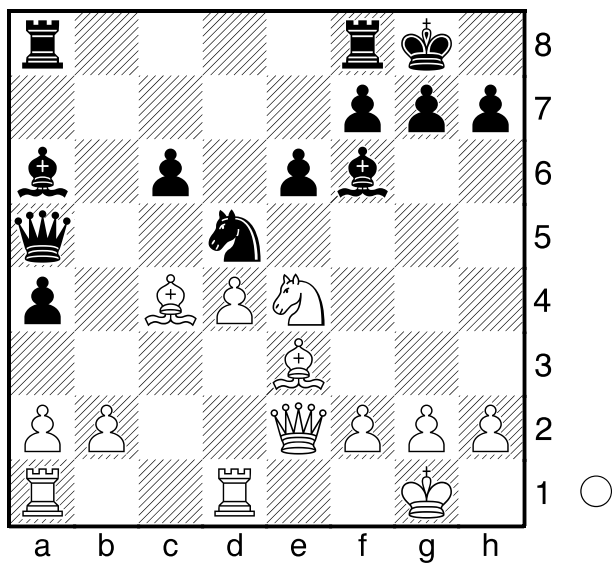
A hard game to locate when it slipped away! Ruiyang's ..a5-...a4 in lieu of routine development showed a deep maneuver, ...Qa5 and ...Ba6 to trade off the lesser piece. Then she wasn't everse to trading queens while keeping up pressure on the queenside. Bambou chose a bad moment to come out with the queen bishop, missing some subtlety involving the a-pawn making it to a2, and a few moves later he resigned.

1.e4 c5 2.c3 Nf6 3.e5 Nd5 4.Nf3 Nc6 5.d4 cxd4 6.cxd4 d6 7.Bc4 dxe5 8.Nxe5 e6 9.0-0 Be7 10.Nxc6 bxc6 11.Nc3 0-0 12.Qe2

(Diagram)

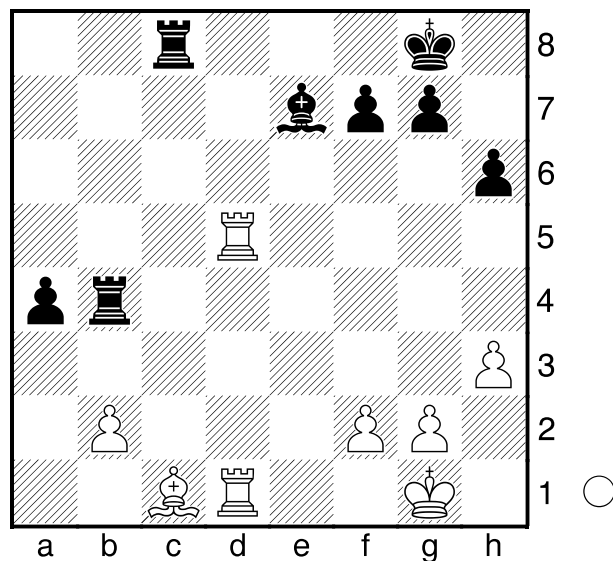


**a5 13.Rd1 a4 14.Bd2 Bf6 15.Be3
Qa5 16.Ne4 Ba6**

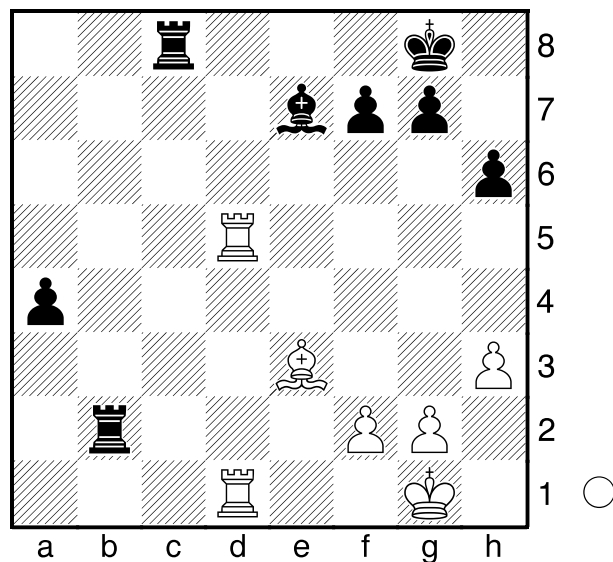


**17.Rac1 Be7 18.h3 Rfb8 19.Rc2
Bxc4 20.Qxc4 Qb5 21.Qxb5 Rxb5
22.Bc1 Nb4 23.Rc4 Nxa2 24.Rxc6 h6
25.Nc3 Nxc3 26.Rxc3 Rb4 27.d5 Rd8
28.Rcd3 exd5 29.Rxd5 Rc8**

(Diagram)

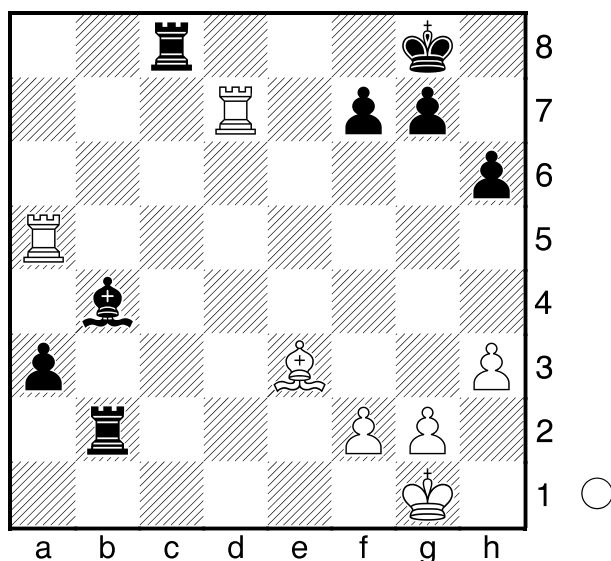


30.Be3?!
[30.Ra5 Bf6 31.Be3 Bxb2 32.Rd7
a3 33.g3=]
30...Rxb2



31.Ra5 a3 32.Rd7 Bb4

(Diagram)



33.Raa7?

[33.Ra6!±]

**33...a2 34.Bd4 Bc3 35.Bxc3 Rxc3
36.Rd8+ Kh7 37.Rda8 Rcc2 38.h4
Rxf2 39.h5 Rxg2+ 40.Kh1 Rgc2
0-1**

B23
 □ **Kagle,Sasha Arthur** **1979**
 ■ **Winslow,Elliott** **2192**
 2023 Fall TNM: 2000+ (3.3) 19.09.2023
 [Winslow,Elliott]

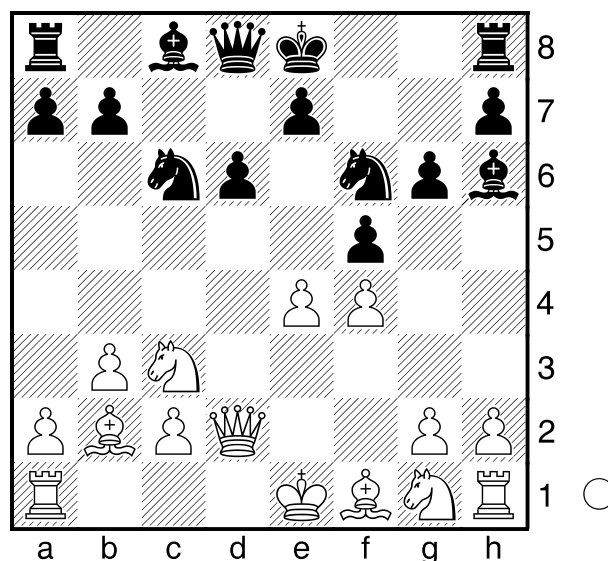
Sasha lost his way against Ruiyang last round but here he's on point against Winslow (me). An important system, a couple of arbitrary moves by his opponent, and a nice attacking success. But then -- he dropped out of the tournament! We'll have to ask what happened. **1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Qxd4** Quite an annoying system! But fortunately for Najdorf/Dragon/Scheveningen/Classical Sicilian players things have been worked out for Black. Too bad I wasn't quite alerted.

4...Nc6 5.Qd2 g6

[Relevant: 5...Nf6 6.b3 e6 7.Bb2 d5
8.exd5 exd5 9.0-0-0 Be6 10.a3 Bc5

11.Nf3 0-0 12.Bd3 Rc8 13.Kb1 Qe7
14.Ka2 d4 15.Ne2 Rfd8 16.Rhe1
Nb4+ 17.axb4 Bxb4 18.Qf4 Bxe1
19.Nxe1 1-0 Vachier Lagrave,M
(2741)-Kramnik,V (2753) Chessable
Masters Div 2 Win Chess.com INT
rapid 2023 (3.1)]

6.b3 Bh6 7.f4 f5!? 8.Bb2 Nf6

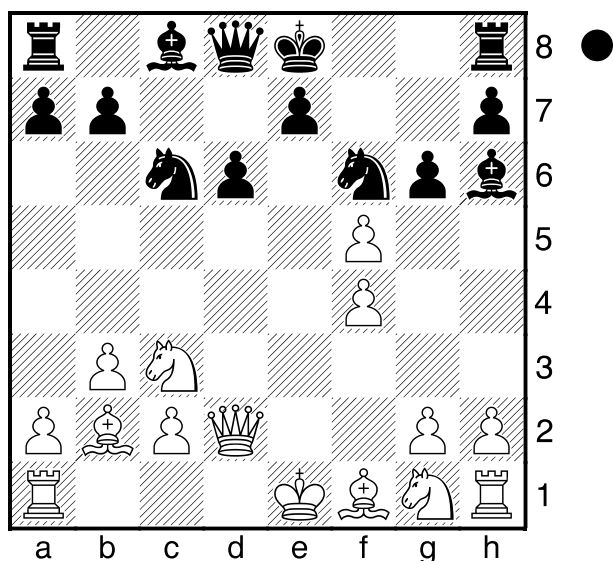


9.exf5

[Other moves have been tried.
Stockfish gives a complex game via
9.0-0-0 fxe4 but Black has done very
well (almost 7-3 in their favor!)
(9...Rf8)]

[and 9.Bd3 0-0 (9...fxe4; 9...Qa5
10.exf5 Bxf5 11.Nge2 saw Nakamura
beat Grischuk but Sarana winning
game after game as Black -- by
castling queenside as well! 0-0-0!?
12.0-0-0!?)]

(Diagram)



Providing Black an opportunity to "capture towards the center" which shouldn't be taken. **9...gxf5??N** (N) Stockfish unequivocally makes this "+-".

[9...Bxf5 (14 games) and already Black has equalized if not gotten the better of it (!), mostly through ...e5, ... Qd7 and ...0-0-0! A lesson that should sink in. No more "rote" moves! So here's a bit of an opening article:

A) 10.Nf3 Qa5 (10...Rf8 11.g3 Qa5 12.0-0-0 0-0-0 13.Kb1 e5 14.a3 exf4 15.Nd4 Nxd4 16.Qxd4 f3 17.Nb5 Kb8 18.Nxd6 Qc7 19.Bc4 Ne4 20.Nxf5 Rxd4 21.Nxd4 Nd2+ 22.Rxd2 Bxd2 23.Ne6 Qd6 24.Nxf8 Qxf8 25.Rf1 f2 26.Be5+ Ka8 27.Bd4 Be1 28.Ka2 Qf3 29.a4 Qg2 30.Kb2 Kb8 31.Be5+ Kc8 32.h4 a6 33.Kc1 Kd7 34.Bf4 Qe4 35.Bd3 Qd4 36.Kd1 Ke6 37.Ke2 h5 38.Be3 Qg4# 0-1 Xu,X (2582)-Sasikiran,K (2656) Wch Blitz Moscow 2019 (10)) 11.0-0-0 0-0-0;

B) 10.Bb5 Qa5 11.Nd5 (11.Nge2 0-0-0 12.Bxc6 bxc6 13.Nd4 Bd7 14.0-0-0 Rhf8 15.Kb1 e5 16.Nf3 Bg4 17.Qe2 Bxf4 18.Qc4 Kb7

19.b4 Qb6 20.a4 d5 21.Qb3 Ka8 22.a5 Qb7 23.Na4 Ne4 24.Qa3 Qb5 25.Nb6+ Kb7 26.Na4 Rfe8 27.Rde1 Bxf3 28.gxf3 Nd2+ 29.Ka1 Nc4 30.Qb3 Bd2 31.Nc3 Bxc3 32.Bxc3 Ka8 33.Rb1 Rf8 34.Be1 Rxf3 35.c3 Rdf8 36.h4 d4 37.Rd1 d3 38.h5 g5 39.Rg1 h6 40.Qa2 e4 41.Bg3 d2 42.Rxd2 Nxd2 43.Qxd2 e3 44.Qd6 Qa4+ 45.Kb2 Rf2+ 46.Bxf2 Rxf2+ 47.Kb1 Qc2+ 0-1 Mironenko,G (1998)-Loskutova,V (2166) Satka Autumn op (Women) 2021 (5))

11...Qxd2+ 12.Kxd2 Nxd5 13.Bxc6+ bxc6 14.Bxh8 Bxf4+ 15.Ke2 e5 16.c4 Nc3+ 17.Kf2 Kf7 18.Ne2 Nxe2 19.Kxe2 Rxh8 20.Rhf1 h5 21.g3 Bh6 22.Rad1 Ke6 23.Kf2 d5 24.cxd5+ cxd5 25.b4 Rc8 26.a3 Rc2+ 27.Ke1 d4 28.Rf2 d3 0-1 Kraus,T (2477)-Svidler,P (2683) Titled Tuesday intern op 15th Feb Early Chess.com INT blitz 2022 (2);

C) 10.0-0-0 e5!? (10...Qa5 11.Nge2 0-0-0) 11.g3 Qd7 12.Bg2 0-0-0 13.Nd5 exf4! 14.gxf4! (14.Nxf6?! f3! 15.Qxh6 fxg2 16.Nxd7! gxh1Q 17.Bxh8 Qe4 18.Qd2 Rxh8 19.Re1 Qb4 20.Qxb4 Nxb4 21.Nf6 Kd8=) 14...Ne4 15.Qe1 Rhe8!]

10.0-0-0+- 0-0? 9th best? Now I don't even get around to putting a rook on the g-file. **11.Nf3**

[11.Nh3!]

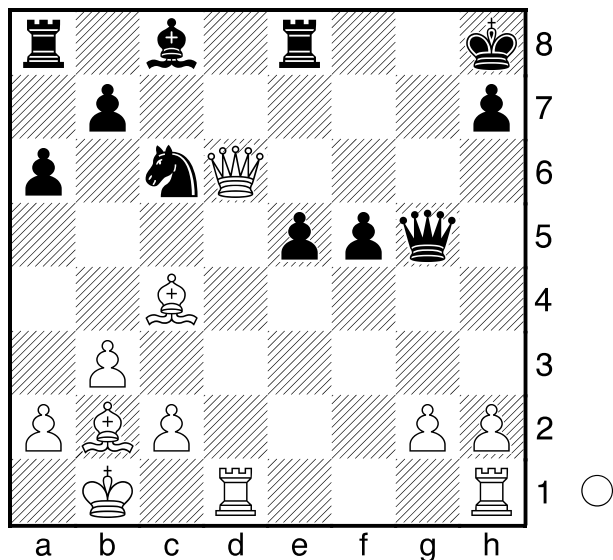
11...e5? *Thirteenth* best?? **12.Bc4+ Kh8**

[12...Kg7 13.g3 Ne4 is just lost, lost, lost.]

13.Ng5 Bxg5 14.fxg5 Ne8 15.Nb5 a6? 16.Nxd6 Nxd6 17.Qxd6 Qxg5+ [17...Qxd6 18.Rxd6 Re8 is just as hopeless. Down a pawn, those bishops looking like the Danish

Gambit on a good day, my king
covering on h8.]

18.Kb1 Re8



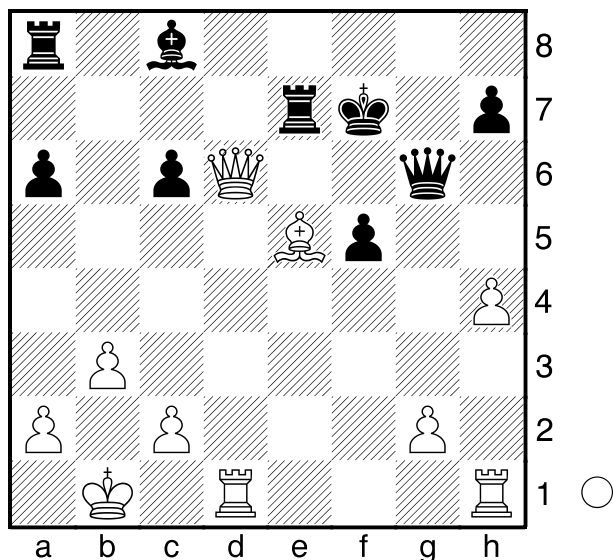
19.Bf7! Re7 20.Bd5

[20.h4! Qg7 21.Qxe7! Nxe7
22.Rd8+ Ng8 23.Bxe5
is a slaughter.]

**20...Kg7 21.Bxc6 bxc6 22.Bxe5+ Kf7
23.h4**

[23.Qxc6 Bb7 24.Qc4+]

23...Qg6



**24.Qc5! Be6 25.g4! Ree8 26.gxf5
Bxf5 27.Rdg1 Bxc2+ 28.Kb2 Qd3**

**29.Rf1+
1-0**

B34

□ **Nystom Burke, Oliver Peter**

■ **Braithwaite, Andrew**

2023 Fall TNM: u1200 (3.30) 19.09.2023
[Braithwaite, Andrew/(Winslow, Elliott)]

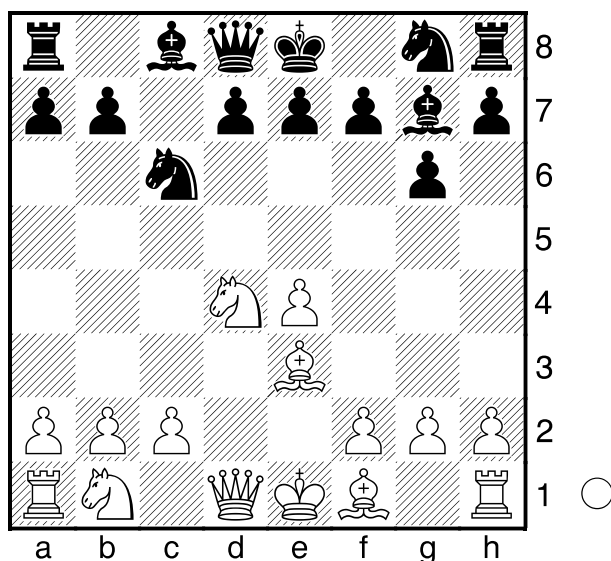
(EW:) This Round three game was a rough and tumble up-and-down battle, even (especially!) into the king and pawn ending -- ultimately won by a tournament newcomer, a protege of Ed Lewis, who has now all but locked up the section. (AB): Matched up against a new USCF player who has only had Black in previous rounds, so I don't even know what move he'll play first. The suspense! **1.e4** Opponent draws out the drama by showing up 15 minutes late to the board. **1...c5 2.Nf3 g6** Preparing to fianchetto the DSB. **3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nc6 5.Be3**

[(ew:) 5.c4 Maroczy Bind, a major system.]

5...Bg7

[5...Nf6 6.Nc3 Bg7 Transposes back to main line]

(Diagram)



Taking a moment here to make sure I can't get in trouble after 6. Qd2 with a White battery aimed at trading off my DSB, which would not be fun for me.

6.Nxc6?!

[6.Qd2 Nf6 7.Nxc6 bxc6 8.Bh6 Nxe4 9.Qf4 Bxb2-+ Phew nothing to fear from 5. Bg7]

[(ew: 6.c4 and]

[6.Nc3 are the two main systems, and really the only question White should be asking, pawn on c4 in front of the knight or not?)]

6...bxc6 Now I've traded my b-pawn for White's d-pawn **7.c3** Defending b2 but blocks Nc3 which is more natural and accomplishes the same task. I suppose the idea is to permanently blunt my bishop on g7? **7...Nf6** Developing and attacking e4. **8.Bd3** Again, not the ideal square for the bishop which would rather be on c4. I feel the opening is going well. **8...0-0** I considered the immediate ...d5 push here but wanted to protect the queen with a rook first in case of a tactic to open the d-file.

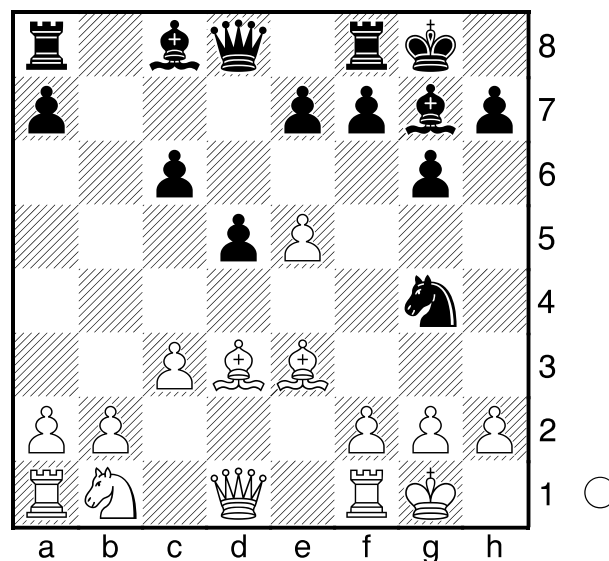
[8...d5 9.e5? Ne4?! 10.Bxe4 dxe4 11.Qxd8+ Kxd8± This was the line I was worried about, but I hadn't yet spotted that after d5 opens up my LSB,

the e5 advance allows Ng4!]
9.0-0 d5 Striking in the center. Let's go!
10.e5? Too cute (though opponent clearly enjoys pushing to avoid pawn trades, and uses this approach to better effect later on).

[10.exd5 Nxd5 Threatening to trade off White's DSB and end his dreams of exploiting the weakened dark squares around my king 11.Bd4 e5 12.Bc5 Re8 I'd prefer to be Black here.]

[(ew) Best is 10.Nd2]

10...Ng4!-+

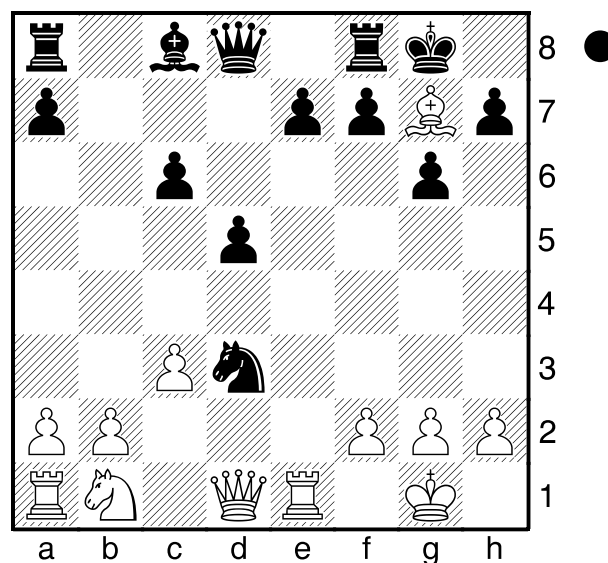
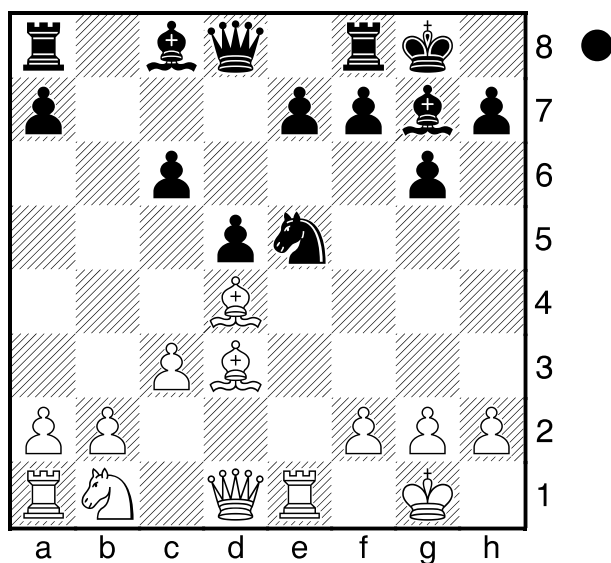


Winning a pawn. **11.Bd4**

[11.e6 Bxe6 No desperado maneuver to salvage the pawn.]

11...Nxe5 12.Re1

(Diagram)



Nxd3 I didn't like giving up my DSB aka "the pride of my position" but after 7 minutes of thinking I couldn't find a better defensive resource that I fully trusted, and we're going to end up exchanging rooks where his is already more active than mine. (ew: the two queen moves were a bit better but Black is just fine either way.)

[12...Qd6 Hmm anything here?

Certainly discourages Bxd5 which gives me the bishop pair and a battery against h2. 13.Bxe5

Not sure what else White can do here, though, with c5 coming next, and if Be3 Ng4! again with the threat of Qh2+ (13.Be3 Ng4 And White is in big trouble; 13.Be2 c5 14.Be3 Ba6 15.Bxa6 Qxa6 16.Bxc5?! Nd3!)

13...Bxe5+ This seems better than what I played.]

[(ew: 12...Qc7 is also pretty good)]

13.Bxg7?!

[13.Qxd3 Bf5?! (13...e5!/+ 14.Bxe5? Re8) 14.Qe3 (ew: "?") Threatening both e7 and a7

A) 14...e5! 15.Bc5 (15.Bxe5??
Re8-+ by a lot) 15...d4 16.cxd4
exd4 and *then* 17...Re8.;

B) 14...Qb8? 15.Qxe7??

13...Nxe1 I spent 13 minutes here evaluating 4 forcing candidates, in this order: 13...Kxg7 (didn't love putting the king on the weak a1-h8 diagonal); 13...Nxe1 (this seemed better, in terms of trading off a set of rooks where I'm up a pawn and White's is more active, so "I'll play this if I don't find anything better"); and finally 13...Nxb2/13...Nxf2 each threatening the White queen, but I didn't trust my calculation enough on either of these lines to commit to a plan. Let's see if I missed anything? (ew: Ya got lucky :-)

-- and played the best move!

[13...Kxg7 14.Qxd3 Bf5 15.Qd4+ Kg8 16.Nd2]

[13...Nxb2 14.Qd4 Re8 15.Bh6 f6

This is what I was trying to calculate: I'm up two pawns, but can I blunt White's attack on my king via the weakened dark squares? I **think** f6 succeeds, not sure where White's attack goes from here, and my knight has the c4 escape square. Of course, it's easier for me to see this by moving pieces around on a digital board, rather than visualizing in my head at the actual board while the

clock's ticking.]

[13...Nxf2 14.Qd4 This fails for Black with the option of Kxf2 always available.]

14.Bxf8 Qxf8?! Again, I didn't want to put my king on f8 with h6 permanently weakened (and then h7 undefended). Although this does decrease the activity of my queen. (ew: but not here! Your queen should have a better purpose than defending e7.

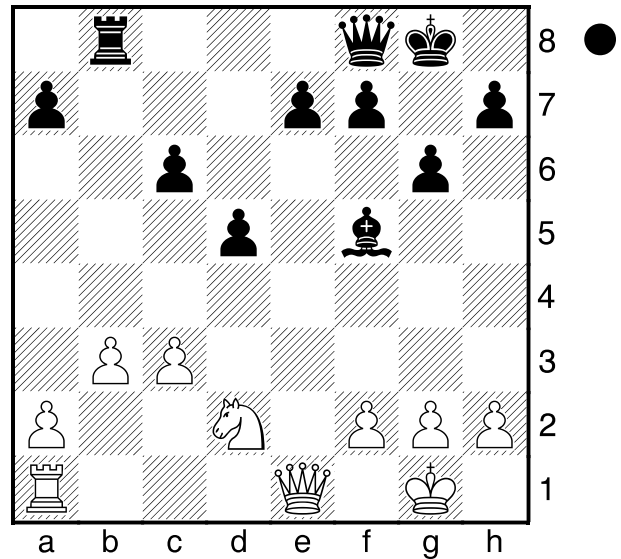
[and 14...Nxg2!-+ (desperado!) starts exposing *White's* king, not to mention winning another pawn.) Note that 15.Bxe7?! Qxe7 16.Kxg2 Qg5+ 17.Kh1 Bh3 is *really* bad (and still down a pawn, not that that will matter!).]

15.Qxe1 Bf5 Activating my bishop and connecting my remaining heavies. I chose this over Ba6 simply because I was more comfortable with a pawn defending my bishop. Plus I can trade on b1 if White lets me. **16.Nd2** White does not let me trade on b1. **16...Rb8** For the next few moves I considered e6 to solidify my pawn chain, but I was worried about closing off my bishop's avenues of retreat in case of something like h3-g4. I guess I can always route the bishop to safety via d3, so perhaps a missed resource given that I eventually allow e7 to fall?

[16...e6 17.h3 Rb8 18.b3 Rb7 19.g4 Bd3 Solid but not sure how Black makes progress from here]
[(ew: Stockfish notes 16...c5! getting your asset going right away.)]

17.b3

(Diagram)



Weakening the c3 pawn, which I fail to act on. **17...c5?** Not sure what I was going for here. I think hoping that c4 bxc4 allows my rook to infiltrate with Rb2? White correctly notes that this aligns the undefended pawns on c5 and a7. Again, e6 is good here, or activating the queen and attacking White's weakness on c3. (ew: Okay, I'm going to let the notes stand, but too many of them need going over with a firm silicon hand. Including this one, 17...c5 is much better than 17...Qg7, and neither of them is best. Let's just find where Black lost the way entirely.

[17...Qg7 18.Qxe7 Qxc3 19.Qe1 Better and more active.]

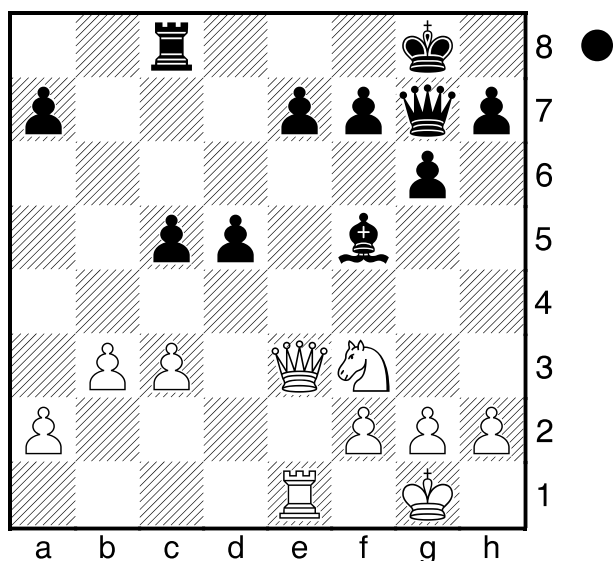
18.Qe3 Rc8 19.Re1 Ganging up on e7. White's got counterplay. **19...Qg7** Counterthreat vs c3 (and by extension the underdefended knight on d2)

[(ew: 19...Rc7!)]

20.Nf3

[20.Qxe7 Qxc3 21.Nf3 Qa5]

(Diagram)



This move also defends against d5 **20...c4?** Failing to consider that bxc4 isn't forced (ew: Yes, there goes any vestige of advantage.) **21.b4=** Now if White's queen wants to take the e7 and a7 pawns, Black will simply respond in kind by taking c3 and b4. Oh wait no! That doesn't work if Qxa7 first, because Qxe7 defends b4. **21...Rc6??** Lifting the rook and hoping to simplify with Re6, or if White plays the anticipated reply Ne4, attack/defend along the a-file with Ra6. Of course, I missed that both Qxa7 and Qxe7 give back my pawn advantage.

[21...a6 22.Qb6 Qxc3 23.Qxa6 Rb8+]

22.Qxe7!+- I can't counter with Qxc3 now that Qe8+ forks the rook on c6.

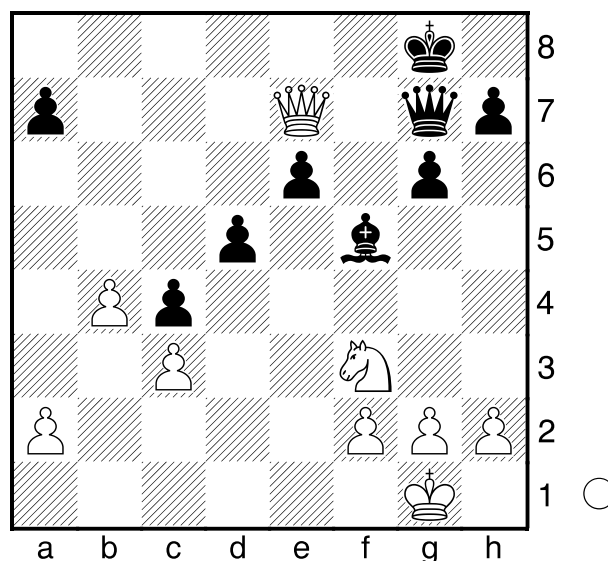
22...Re6 Wondering if Ra6 (defending a7 and attacking both c3 and a2) would have been better here, rather than trading down to play an even endgame which is not yet a strength of mine. I think the pain of "losing" the pawn on e7 to a missed tactic stopped me from looking for counterplay resources.

[22...Ra6 23.Qe8+ Qf8 24.Qe2 This looks like White's only way to save a pawn.]

[ew: 22...Ra6?? 23.Qd8+ Qf8 24.Re8 ends the game.]

23.Rxe6 fxe6?!

[ew: 23...Bxe6!?!]



Protecting the pawn on a7 and encouraging a queen trade.

24.Qxg7+??=

[ew: 24.Qd8+ keeping the queens on is just winning. Qf8 (24...Kf7??

25.Ng5#) 25.Qc7 Qg7 26.Qb8+

A) 26...Kf7 27.Ng5+ Ke7

(27...Kf6 28.f4 uh-oh) 28.Qxa7+;

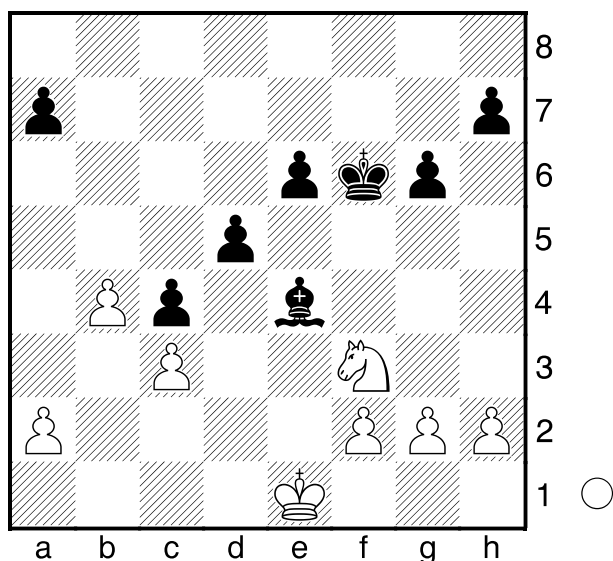
B) 26...Qf8 27.Qxa7+-]

24...Kxg7 And now we're into a knight-vs-bishop endgame, which I have no actual knowledge of how to play. (ew: When you have the engine running and you see half a dozen candidates all "0.00"...)

25.Kf1 Kf6 Defending against Ng5! and I'm already nervous about all the potential knight forks in this endgame.

26.Ke1 Be4

(Diagram)

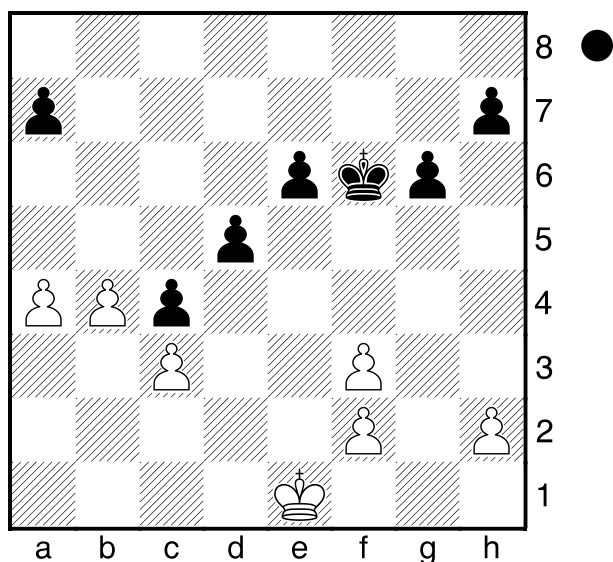


So I decide to force the pieces off the board. **27.a4?** (ew: White loses his way!)

[27.Nh4?? g5!]

[27.Nd4! Bxg2 28.Nb5 a6 29.Nc7 e5 30.Nxa6 The pawns will stand off, with no breakthrough for either side.]

27...Bxf3!-+ ew: Andrew didn't realize just how good this is. It doesn't take much to tip a pawn ending one way or another, and those broken pawns do it. Note that the outside majority, usually a deciding factor, here can't get going; Black's king is too close. **28.gxf3**



This structure looks pretty playable to me -- three pawn islands apiece, Black has superior king placement and doubled pawns to target on the f-file, while White has the 2-on-1 down the a/b-files. Let's go. **28...Ke7?** Counting the number of moves for White to make a passed pawn on b6 tells me I need to deal with that situation first. (ew: In fact you're already in range, and you let White off the hook!)

[28...g5!-+ is best 29.Kd2 e5 30.Ke3 Ke6 31.Kd2 d4 32.Kc2 Kd6 33.Kd2 dxc3+ 34.Kxc3 Kd5 It's precarious but winning. (I think!)]

[28...e5-+ 29.h4 Ke6 30.Kd2 Ke7!! 31.Ke3 h5 It's White who has to be vigilant, lest a Black pawn break through via ...d4 and/or ...g5.]

29.Ke2?

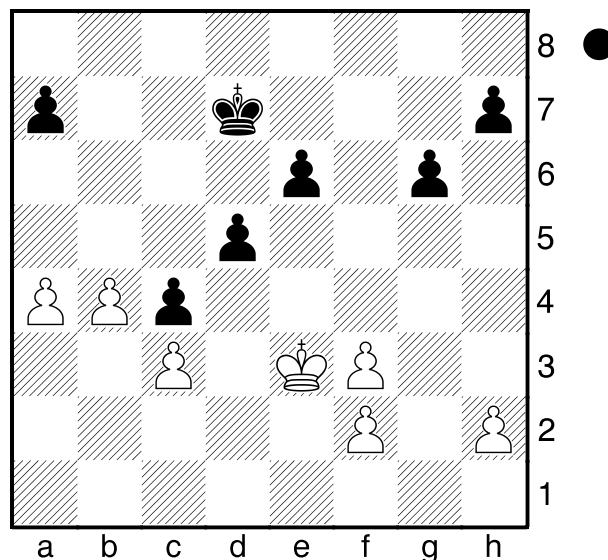
[ew: 29.f4! changes the rhythm entirely. Now Black can't set up those threats of running pawns. It's all "0.00" again.]

29...Kd7?=-

[29...g5]

[29...e5]

30.Ke3



e5?? Blocking out the White king. (ew: Things change in a heartbeat in pawn endings! Now this is a blunder!)

[Black can hold, even with 30...Kc6 31.Kd4 a6 32.Ke5 Kc7 since taking the e-pawn allows ...d4 winning. 33.Kxe6?? d4-+]

31.f4!? This looked scary at the board -- if I take on f4, White's king is going to beat me to the kingside while I'm stuck defending his queen's flank majority. But in hindsight I think this might be a mistake. (ew: "!" No, it's the only, winning, move.) **31...Ke6??** The losing move, giving up my central pawns which were my actual path to victory. In fact, after exf4 it might be Black who's playing for a win?! (ew: Everything loses already, sorry!)

[31...exf4+ Now if White doesn't recapture, I've got two pawn majorities, one on the kingside and one in the center, and my king can defend the central majority while remaining nearby to protect the queen's flank. And if he does recapture, I'm pushing the central pawns and even if he's in time to stop them, I suspect I'm cleaning up his majority in the meantime. 32.Kxf4 d4 33.Ke4 (ew: "??") (33.cxd4 (ew: !) c3 34.Ke3 c2 35.Kd2 c1Q+ 36.Kxc1 Kd6 37.Kc2 Kd5 38.Kc3+- Ok looks like White still has a win with accurate play. (ew: So this should be the main line! You can't just hope your opponent won't play it!)) 33...dxc3-+ 34.Ke3 Kd6 35.Ke2 Kd5 36.Kd1 c2+ 37.Kxc2 Kd4 38.Kb2 c3+ 39.Kb3 c2 40.Kxc2 Kc4 41.b5 Kb4+]

32.fxe5 Kxe5 33.b5

[ew: 33.f4+! forces entry to d4, etc.]

33...Kd6 34.Kd4 Kc7 35.Kxd5

(ew: I've lost interest now, and this is a good time for Black to, too. **35...Kb6**

36.Kxc4 Ka5 37.Kb3 a6 38.bxa6

Kxa6 And now the gap-toothed passers with king support are enough to bring this home. **39.Kb4 h6 40.c4 g5 41.c5**


h5 42.a5 Opponent reached to play c6 here which would have been a horrible blunder, but stopped just before touching the piece.

[42.c6 Kb6 43.a5+ Kxc6=]

42...g4 43.c6 h4 44.Kc5 h3 45.Kd6 Ka7 46.Kd7 Kb8 47.c7+ Ka7

I got excited by a stalemate trap with c8=Q, forgetting that my pawn on g4 was frozen but not fixed. Opponent was too sharp to miss that. **48.c8Q g3 49.Kc6 gxf2 50.Qb7#** 1-0 White wins by checkmate.

1-0

	B12
 Yan,Ruiyang	2357
 Dasika,Archit	2223
2023 Fall TNM: 2000+ (4.1) 26.09.2023	
<i>[Winslow,Elliott]</i>	

The meeting of the two masters (by rating) was interesting on many levels. This could end up being the key game for the final standings. **1.e4 c6** Archit is fond of systems where ...c6 and ...d5 are played, with ...dxe4 or ...dxc4 leading to modest but solid positions (think Slav/Meran and Caro Kann). **2.d4 d5 3.e5** So the Advance Variation makes sense against him, to perhaps place him in uncomfortable surroundings. (I should consider that!) **3...c5** It seems that, in the Bay Area, this is the popular way to hit White's center. It does require some unusual responses for both sides. The players now seem to be more knowledgeable than I realized at first.

[Could the superstars finally be giving 3...Bf5 a rest? 3...c5 may yet become more common. But over time 3...Bf5 has been The Move four times as often.]

4.Nf3 Not the main move until recently,

when some of the very top players (Firouzja, Ding) have relied on it. It doesn't seem so principled, to give Black ...Bg4, but there are other things going on, like development (!). And compare to 3...Bf5 when 4.Nf3 has been the main line, just getting the king out of the center before worrying about what to do with the pawns again.

[4.dxc5 has been the main thing for ages.]

[4.c3]

4...Nc6

[4...cxd4 and]

[4...Bg4 are the other natural moves. Nothing is set in stone.]

[4...e6 comes about a lot by transposition, when after 5.c3 it's hard to believe that the "free" knight move doesn't favor White.]

5.dxc5 Bg4 The height of fashion -- at least in Titled Tuesday three-minute games by 2750 players on chess.com.

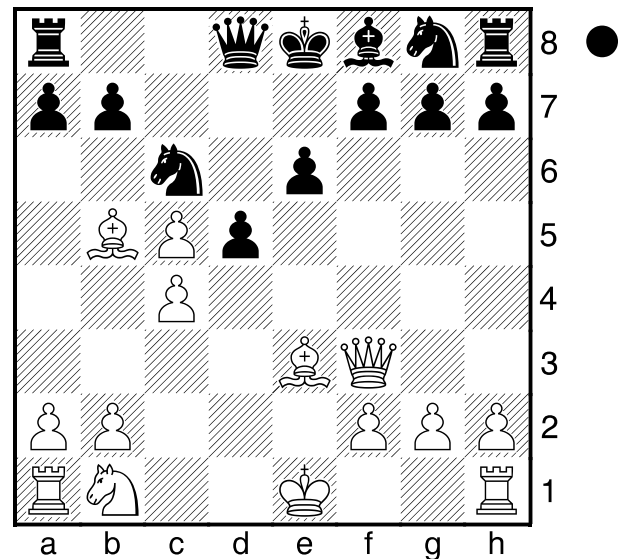
6.c3 e6 7.Be3 Scores the best.

[7.b4 a6 (7...Nge7 is the main move) 8.Nbd2 Nxe5 9.Qa4+ Nd7 10.Ne5 Ngf6 11.c4 a5 12.Nb3 axb4 13.Qb5 Be7 14.c6 bxc6 15.Nxc6 Qc7 16.f3 Bf5 17.Nxe7 Rb8 18.Nxf5 Rxb5 19.Nxg7+ Ke7 20.cxb5 Nc5 0-1 Topalov,V (2760)-Nakamura,H (2779) London Classic 8th 2016 (4)]

7...Bxf3 The most common -- but it's been getting beaten up. 70+%.

[Relevant: 7...Nge7 8.Nbd2 a6 9.Bd3 Nxe5 10.Qa4+ Qd7 11.Qxd7+ Nxd7 12.b4 Nc6 13.h3 Bxf3 14.Nxf3 g6 15.a3 Bg7 16.Kd2 Nde5 17.Nxe5 Bxe5 18.Kc2 d4 19.cxd4 Nxd4+ 20.Bxd4 Bxd4 21.Rad1 0-0-0 22.f3 Kc7 23.Bc4 h5 24.Rd3 h4 25.Rhd1 Bf6 26.Rxd8 Rxd8 27.Rxd8 Bxd8 28.Kb3 ½-½ Firouzja,A (2777)-So,W (2753) Speed Chess Chess.com INT blitz 2023 (2.13)]

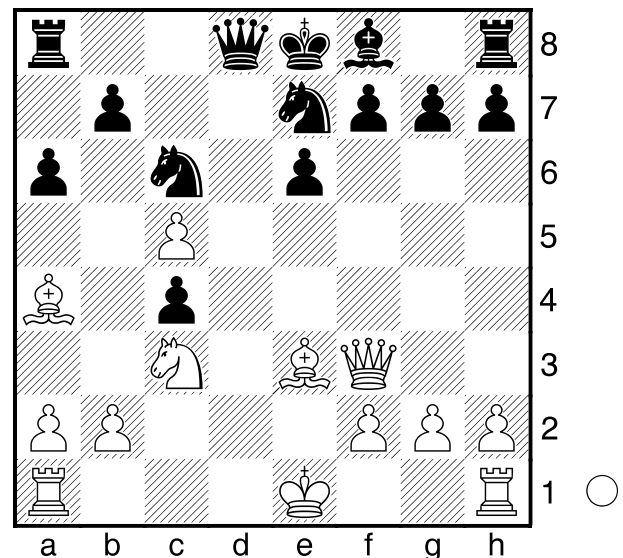
8.Qxf3 Nxe5 9.Bb5+ Nc6 10.c4



Nge7?

[10...Qf6!±]

11.Nc3+- a6 12.Ba4 dxc4



13.0-0N

[Predecessor: 13.Rd1 Qc8 14.Rd6 Nf5 15.Rxc6 bxc6 16.Bxc6+ Kd8 17.Bxa8 Bxc5 18.Bxc5 Qxc5 19.0-0 Ke7 20.Qb7+ 1-0 Renteria Becerra,J (2252)-Granero Roca,A (2363) Mutxamel IM 3rd 2021 (5)]

13...Qc8 14.Rad1 Nf5 15.Ne4 Be7 16.Nd6+ Bxd6 17.cxd6 0-0 18.Bxc6 bxc6 19.Bb6 Qd7 20.Qc3 Rfb8 21.Bc5 Rb5 22.Qxc4 Rxb2 23.a4 Rb7

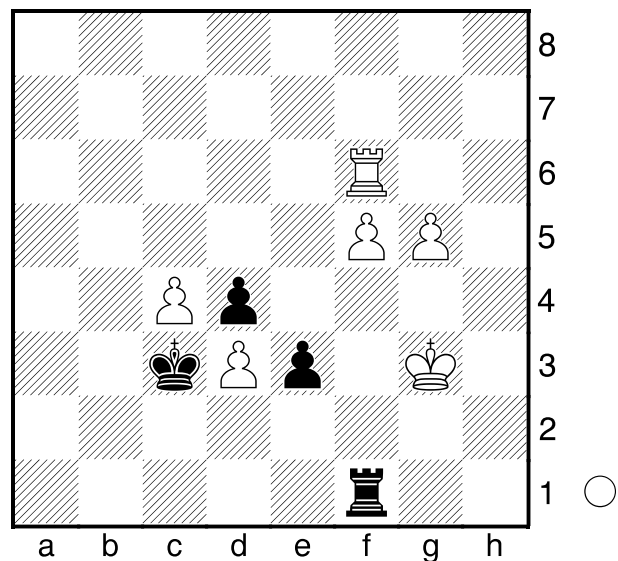
24.Qc3 Rab8 25.Qa5 Ra8 26.Rb1 h6
27.Rxb7 Qxb7 28.Rd1 Qd7 29.Rd2
e5 30.Qc7 Qc8 31.Qxc8+ Rxc8 32.d7
1-0

Srinivasan,Sivavishnu **B11**
 Bambou,Christophe **1809**
 2023 Fall TNM: 2000+ (4.2) **2093**
 26.09.2023
[Winslow,Elliott]

Christophe came back (eventually -- and barely!) from his previous loss to see to it that another youngster didn't take him down, in a tricky rook ending. 1.e4 c6 2.Nc3 d5 3.Nf3 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Nf6 5.Qe2 Nxe4 6.Qxe4 Be6 7.Ne5 Nd7 8.Nxd7 Qxd7 9.Bc4 Bd5 10.Bxd5 cxd5 11.Qe2 d4 12.d3 e6 13.Bf4 Bb4+ 14.Bd2 Bxd2+ 15.Qxd2 0-0 16.0-0 Rfd8 17.Rfe1 Qb5 18.a4 Qc5 19.Re2 a5 20.Ra3 Qb4 21.Rb3 Qxa4 22.Rxb7 Rab8 23.Rxb8 Rxb8 24.b3 Qa2 25.h3 h6 26.Kh2 draw offered 26...Rc8 27.f4

[27.b4! a4!? 28.c4!=]
 27...Rc5 28.Qd1 Qa3 29.g4 a4
 30.bxa4 Qxa4 31.Rf2 Qc6 32.Qe2
 Ra5 33.Qe4 Qc3 34.f5 Qc7+ 35.Qf4
 e5 36.Qg3 Rc5 37.Qg2 e4+ 38.Qg3
 e3 39.Qxc7 Rxc7 40.Re2 Rc5 41.Kg2
 Re5 42.Kf3 f6 43.c4 Kf8 44.Ra2 Ke7
 45.Ra7+ Kd6 46.Ke2 Re8 47.Ra5
 Re5 48.Ra7 h5 49.Ra6+ Kc7 50.Ra7+
 Kc6 51.Rxg7 hxg4 52.hxg4 Ra5
 53.Re7 Ra2+ 54.Kf3 Kc5 55.Re6
 Rf2+ 56.Kg3 Kb4 57.Rxf6 Kc3 58.g5
 Rf1

(Diagram)

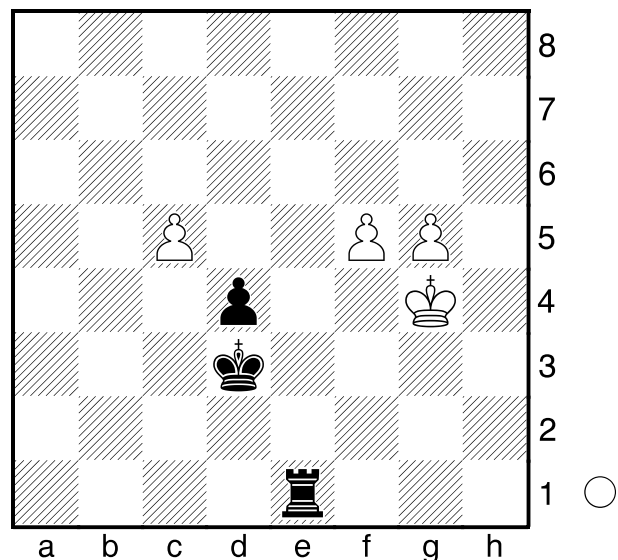


59.Kg4??

[59.c5=]

[59.g6= e2 60.Re6 Rxf5 61.Rxe2
Rg5+ 62.Kf2 Rxg6 63.c5]

**59...Kxd3 60.c5 e2 61.Re6 e1Q
62.Rxe1 Rxe1**



Alas for White, the pawns are all just not far enough to distract Black from a queen and rook vs. king checkmate; White will queen, then Black will check the White king into the end. **63.c6**

[63.Kf4 takes the longest, but it will be mate for sure after Kc4 64.f6 (64.g6 d3 65.g7 Rg1; 64.c6 d3 65.c7 Re8

66.f6 d2 67.f7 Rc8 mate in eight.)
 64...d3 65.f7 Rf1+]
63...Ke4! (Most accurate) **64.f6 d3**
65.f7 d2
 [65...Rf1 is just as fast and good]
66.Kh5 (draw offered)(in fact it's mate in seven) **66...d1Q+** **67.Kg6 Qd6+**
68.Kg7 Qe7
 [68...Rf1 saves a move]
69.Kg8 Qxg5+ 70.Kf8 Rc1 71.c7
Rxc7
0-1

□ **Gu,Chunhui**

■ **Calvert,Sam**

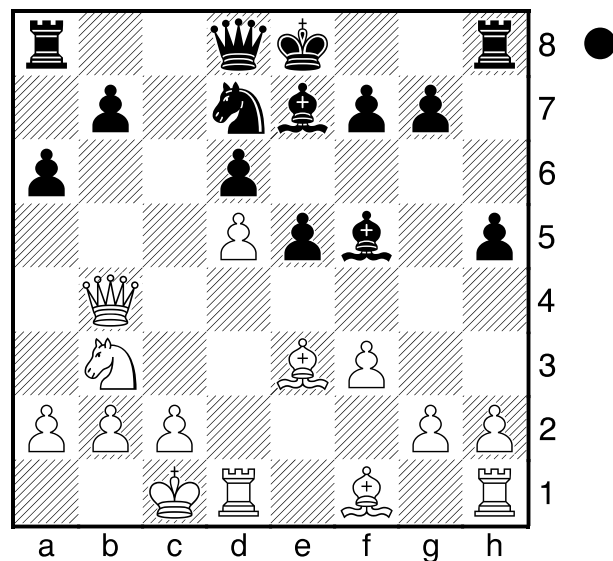
2023 Fall TNM: 1600-1999 (4.14) 26.9.23
[Winslow,Elliott]

Sam was doing quite well in an English Attack Najdorf Sicilian, but a slip in defence fell for a nice tactic by Chunhui.

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.f3 e5 7.Nb3 Be7 8.Be3 Be6 9.Qd2 h5 10.0-0-0 Nbd7 11.Nd5 Nxd5 The main line 11...Nxd5 scores better than 11...Bxd5. **12.exd5 Bf5 13.Qb4**

[Relevant: 13.Kb1 Qc7 14.Rc1 0-0 15.Bd3 Bxd3 16.cxd3!? Qd8 17.d4 Bf6 18.Rhd1 Re8 19.Qb4 e4!? 20.f4 Qb6 21.Qa4 Qb5 22.Qxb5 axb5 23.Rc7 Nb6 24.Rxb7 Nxd5 25.Re1 Rab8 26.Rd7 Red8 0-1 (42) Vidit,S (2710)-Maghsoodloo,P (2721) Shusha Rapid 2022 (8)]

(Diagram)



White tries to make hay on the side where only his king is: a bad recipe? Eventually Black should be able to work that in his favor. **13...Rc8N**

[Here's the last high-level example, but (1) just Black (550 rating point difference!) (2) just another blitz game (the database is infested with them!). 13...b6 14.g4 Bg6 15.Kb1 hxg4 16.fxg4 Nc5 17.Nd2 Qc7 18.Nc4 Rb8 19.Bd3? (19.h4!±) 19...Nxd3 20.cxd3 Rh3!-+ 21.Bxb6 Qd7 (21...Bxd3+!) 22.Ka1 Qb5?! 23.Qxb5+? (23.Qxd6!±) 23...axb5-+ 0-1 (43) Atanejhad,S (2123)-Sjugirov, S (2674) Titled Tuesday intern op 4th Febr Chess.com INT blitz 2020 (2)]

14.Bd3 Bxd3 15.Rxd3± b6 16.Kb1 0-0 17.h4 Nc5 18.Nxc5 bxc5 19.Qc4 a5?

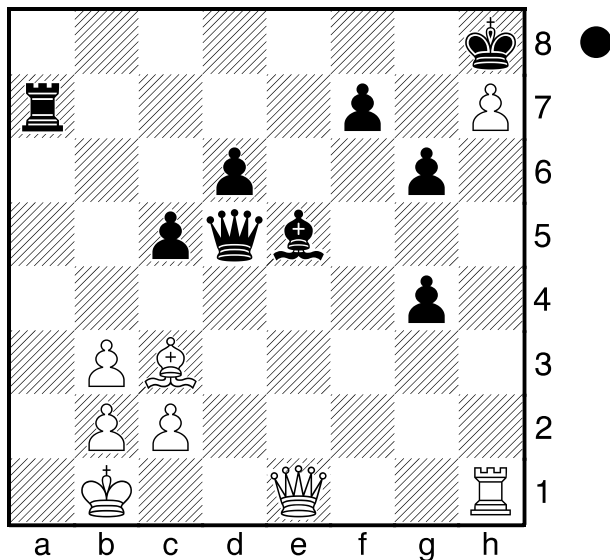
[19...Rb8= 20.Qxa6?! Rb6 Black secures plenty of counterplay picking on White's queen. 21.Qa7 (21.Qc4 Rb4) 21...e4!? 22.fxe4 Bf6 Black is fine.]

20.f4?

[20.g4!±]

20...Bf6 21.g4 exf4 22.Bxf4 hxg4 23.Rg3 Rb8 24.Bc1?! [24.c3!±]

24...Rb4!-+ 25.Qa6 Be5 26.Ra3 Qf6
27.Rb3 Rfb8 28.Qxa5 Rxb3 29.axb3
Qf3 30.Qe1 Qxd5 31.h5 Ra8 32.h6
g6 33.h7+ Kh8 34.Bd2 Ra7 35.Bc3



f5??

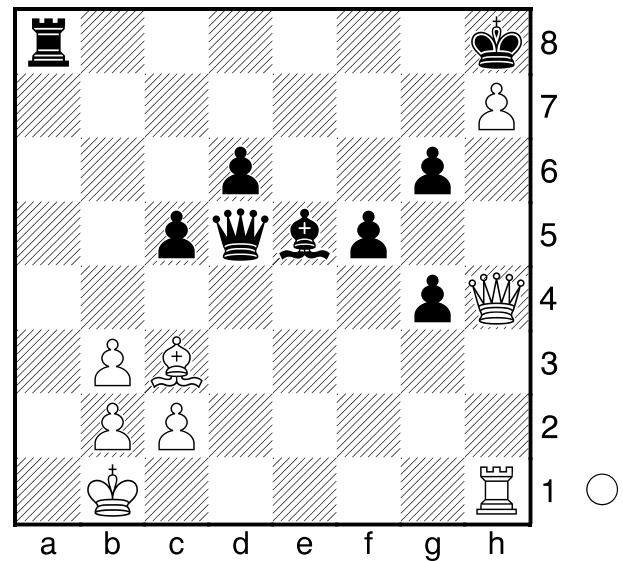
[35...f6]

[35...g3!]

36.Qh4= Ra8??

[36...g5! (only) 37.Qh6! (only) Rf7=
(37...Qa8 38.Bxe5+ dxe5 39.Qf6+
Rg7 40.Rd1 Qf3!=) 38.Re1! Rg7!?
(38...g3=; 38...f4=; 38...Rf6?! 39.Bxe5
Qxe5 40.Qh1! Qxe1+! 41.Qxe1
Kxh7±/=) 39.Bxe5! dxe5 40.Qf6!=]

(Diagram)



37.Qf6+! Bxf6 38.Bxf6#
1-0

B07
☐ **Bambou,Christophe** **2093**
☒ **Winslow,Elliott** **2192**
 2023 Fall TNM: 2000+ (5.1) 03.10.2023
[Winslow,Elliott]

So with Ruiyang off to the Women's Championship in St. Louis after four wins, the dash is on to try to catch or even surpass her score. So we get: a wide-ranging game. First a seemingly innocuous opening, then Christophe stays true to form and sacrifices a piece for two pawns at first opportunity, probably not really soundly. Then, with some suspect defense by me it gets tricky. Finally Black looks to be winning in the clear when a total oversight lets White win back the exchange with a very drawn position. An ill-fated attempt to still make something happen backfires when it is White who is up the Exchange - and Black is brought to the brink of checkmate. But drastically short on time, White doesn't see it! And somehow the defense holds. Black completely forgets

the 50-move rule permitting a ridiculously long game. **1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Bd3** has done pretty well for a minor line.

[3.Nc3]

3...e5! 4.Nf3

[4.c3 Nc6 has done fine, for me even -- I was winning against C.Xanthos in the last round of the National Senior Tournament of Champions, Orlando 2019, but failed to convert. Cost me a lot. (4...d5! is the "theoretical" move!)]

4...Nbd7 Most common if you include a lot of transpositions.

[Surprisingly 4...Bg4!? has the best score. This is *not* the Opera Game!]

5.c3 g6

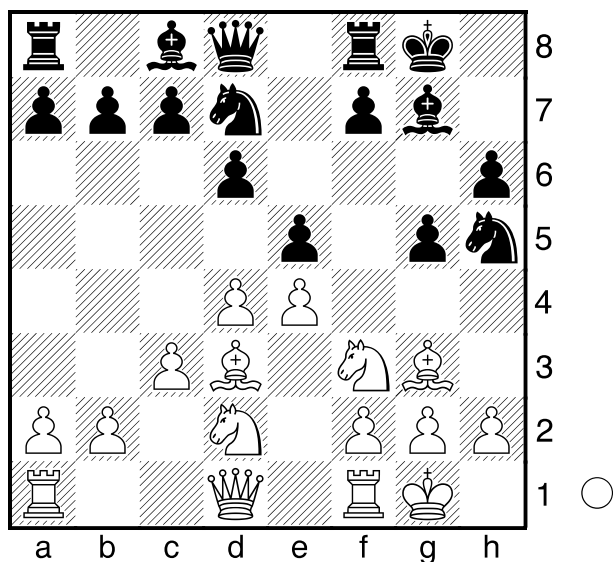
[5...Be7 Here also, most common via different move orders.]

[5...d5!? could still fly.]

6.0-0 Bg7 7.Bg5 0-0 8.Nbd2 h6

[8...b6!?]

9.Bh4 g5 10.Bg3 Nh5



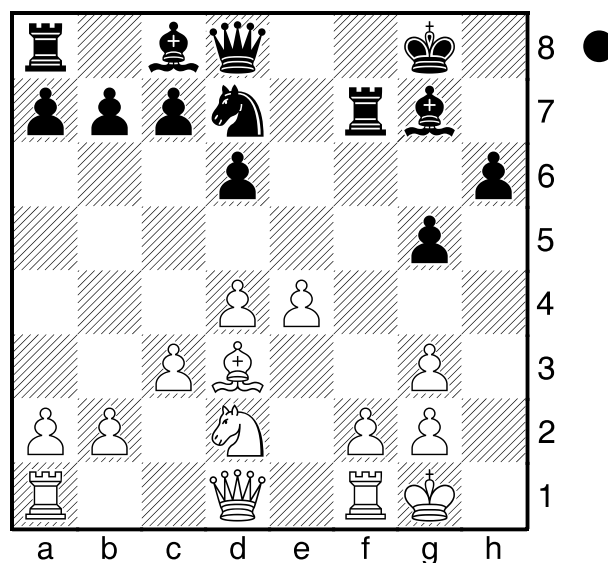
White has done fairly well from this point.

11.Nxe5? Speculative bordering on unsound. But Christophe can't resist such an opportunity! :-)

[11.Nc4 Nf4 12.Bc2 Re8 13.Ne3± highlights the suspect pawn advances

by Black.]

11...Nxg3 12.Nxf7 Rxf7! 13.hxg3



So: White has two pawns for the knight, threats on the rook, and a big pawn center with more to come (f2-f4). Does anyone remember the Cochrane Gambit? 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nxe5 d6 4. Nxg3 !?!? **13...Nf6?!** Inviting complications -- when perhaps Black should be playing for quiet. I was concerned that his pawns might mobilize ("Lava Pawns" I've called it in the past) and wanted to set up ...d5.

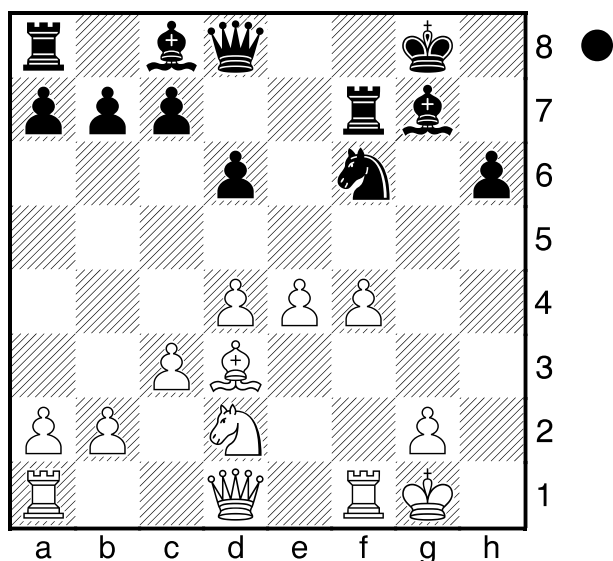
[13...Rf8± would have saved me some grief.]

14.f4?

[14.Qb3 c6 15.Rae1±]

14...gxf4 15.gxf4

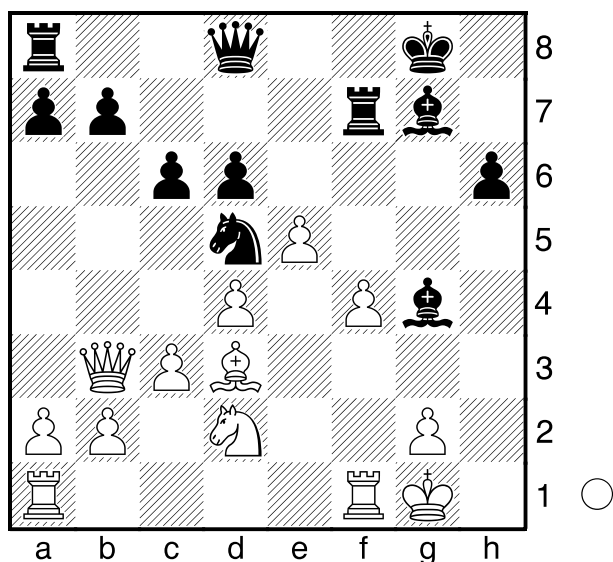
(Diagram)



Neither the other recapture nor tossing in 15.Qb3 changed much -- "Black is a piece up". **15...Bg4 16.Qb3 c6?!**

[16...d5!± would have been perfectly timed.]

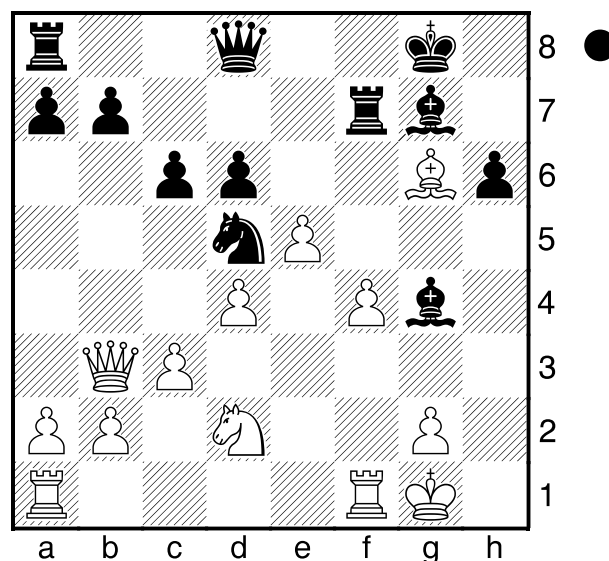
17.e5 Nd5!



18.Bg6?!

[18.Ne4 Bf5 19.Rad1 dxe5 20.fxe5 Rf8!?± is Stockfish 16's mysterious "best play."]

(Diagram)



18...Re7?! As too often, my defensive technique was suspect.

[18...Rf8!? 19.Ne4 (19.Qxb7? Nxf4-+) 19...dxe5 20.fxe5 Qd7± puts development in order. 21.Nc5 Qe7 22.Be4 (22.Qxb7 Qxb7 23.Nxb7 Rab8 24.Na5 Rxb2 25.Nxc6 Bd7 26.Nxa7 Nxc3-+ strands the knight.) 22...Rad8 23.Rxf8+ Bxf8±]

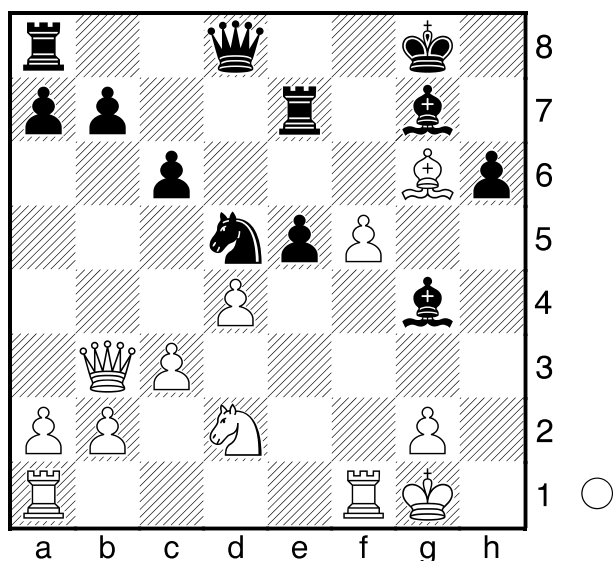
19.f5? In too much of a hurry!

[19.Rae1± just building and seeing if Black can improve makes sense (and is SF).]

[19.c4± might even be too soon as well -- the center gets shaky with ... dxe5 coming.]

19...dxe5-+

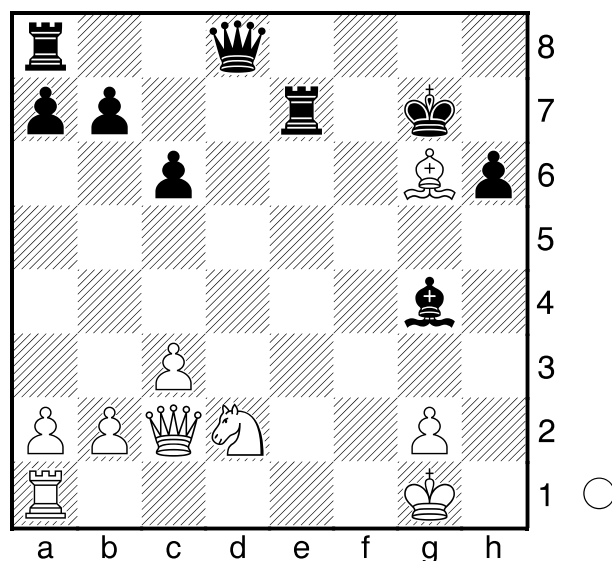
(Diagram)



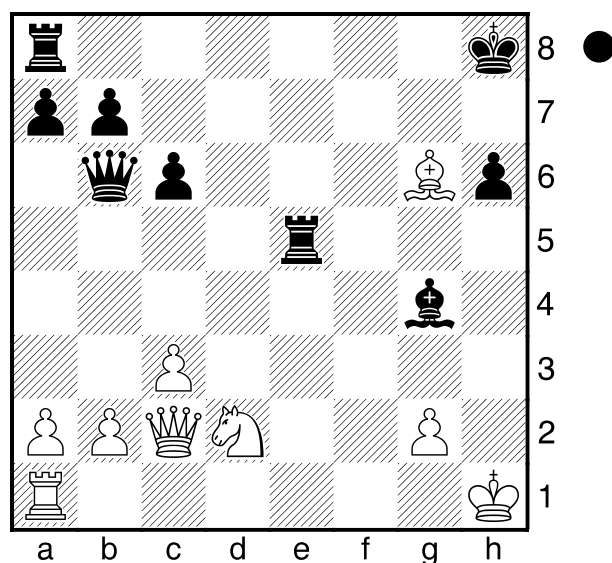
Not a hard move to find. I remember all the books when I was growing up (chessically that is), talking about "returning the gambit pawn at the right time." Well, this is returning the piece, getting the two pawns, but also there are some tactics at the end -- did you really think I was going to fall for that "give it all back" stuff? :-)

20.f6 Bxf6
 The only move that works **21.Rxf6 Kg7**
22.dxe5
 [22.Rf2 Kxg6 23.c4 is the computer making the most of a bad situation, resulting in -- a bad situation.]
22...Nxf6 23.exf6+ Kxf6 24.Qc2 Kg7

(Diagram)



Black is up a rook for a knight, with the slightly more exposed king. g-pawn vs. h-pawn can be significant! **25.Bh7!?**
 Black has almost too many ways to thwart this **25...Kh8** I was amused at the pattern of this, following the bishop to the corner -- but
 [25...Qd6 is a bit better]
 [as is 25...Qb6+ 26.Kh1 Qe3 27.Qg6+ Kh8]
26.Be4 Qb6+ 27.Kh1 Re5 Threatening mate in ONE **28.Bg6**



Rg8?? ??? I fell asleep at the switch. And I was the one with more time.

[28...Qf2 29.Rf1 Re1 30.Qd3
was disuasive -- but simply Qh4+
31.Kg1 Rd8 liquidates: 32.Rxe1
Qxe1+ 33.Qf1 Qxf1+ 34.Nxf1 Rd1
35.Kf2 Ra1 (35...Be6) 36.Bf7
(36.a3 Ra2) 36...Kg7 37.Bb3 Rb1
etc.]

29.Nc4 Now it goes off further...

29...Re2!? A desperate attempt to make something work

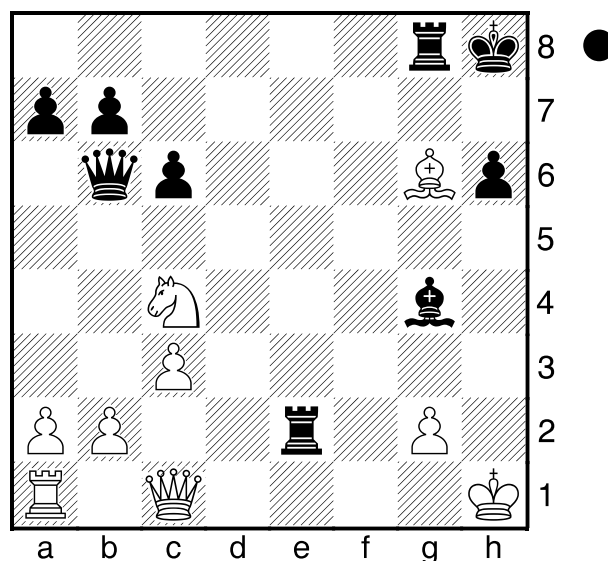
[29...Qc7 (or Qb5 or Qc5) 30.Nxe5
Qxe5 31.Rf1 with "0.00" in every
direction. (totally even) Be6 32.c4?!
(32.b3; 32.Qe4; 32.Be4; 32.Bd3?!
Bd5 33.Rf2 Rg5 would be Black's
last dream of some advantage, but it's
not happening.) 32...Bxc4 33.Qxc4
Rxc6 34.Rf8+ Kh7 isn't even any
advantage worth talking about.]

30.Qc1!?

[I expected 30.Qxe2 Bxe2 31.Nxb6
Rxc6!? with some sort of bishop vs.
knight advantage -- tiny to say the
most.]

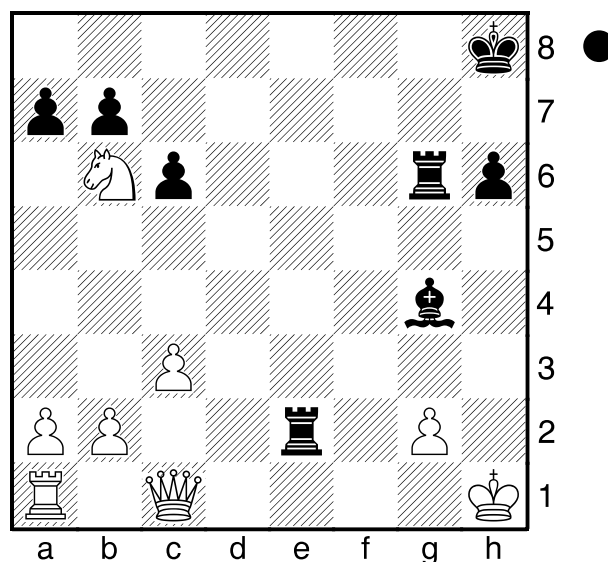
[Simplest was 30.Nxb6 Rxc2
31.Bxc2 axb6 when the tiny plus is
White's. 32.Re1 Rd8 33.Re7 Rd2
34.Be4 Rxb2 35.Rxb7 Rxa2
36.Rxb6 Re2 37.Bxc6 Kg7
Black holds but it's all White's to try.]

(Diagram)



I had missed this as well! **30...Rxc6!**
At least I was clearheaded enough to
see I had to give up my queen...

31.Nxb6



axb6?

[I missed 31...Bf3!!

A) 32.Qf4 Bxc2+

A1) 33.Kh2?? Bd5+ 34.Kh3

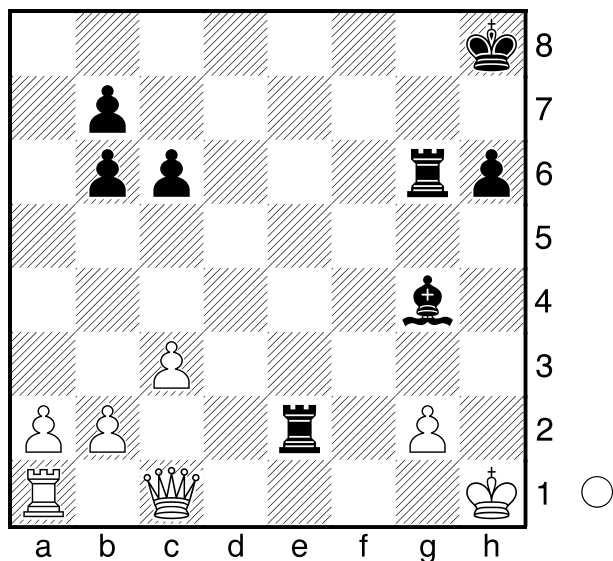
Be6+ 35.Kh4 axb6-+

followed by ...Kh7; White's king is
caught up and seems to have no
way to avoid ...Rg4+ and a won
rook ending. (even 35...Kh7-+
wins!) 36.Rd1 Kh7!

(other moves won as well);

A2) 33.Kg1= Black can't make anything of this? Nope.;

B) 32.gxf3 Re5! 33.Qf4 (33.Qd2; 33.Qc2; 33.Qg1 even) 33...Rh5+ 34.Qh2 Rxf2+ 35.Kxf2 axb6 and dead drawn.]



32.Qf4?

[32.Qd1! Kh7 (32...Rxb2?? 33.Qd8+ Kh7 34.Re1 and now it's my king in trouble) 33.Qd3 Re7 34.Rf1± all with many alternatives for White also clearly favoring him.]
[32.Qf1±]

32...Be6!= 33.c4 sensible but another 0.00 like many others

[33.Rd1 Bd5 34.Rxd5 cxd5 35.g3=]

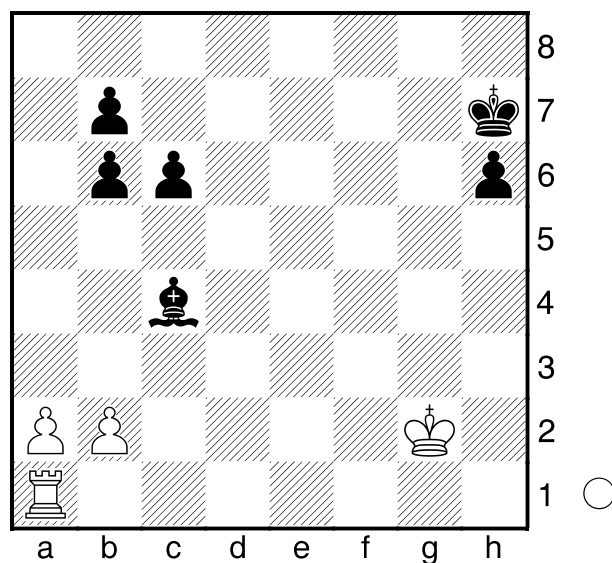
33...Kh7?!

[33...Rexg2! gives White something to worry about, but there is a draw after 34.Qf8+ (cleanest) Bg8 (34...Kh7=) 35.Rd1 (or other rook moves) R2g5 36.Rd2=]

34.Qf3± Rfxg2 35.Qxg2 Rfxg2

36.Kxg2 Bxc4±

(Diagram)



37.a3

[I was concerned about 37.a4= and if ...b5; a5, but Stockfish isn't.]

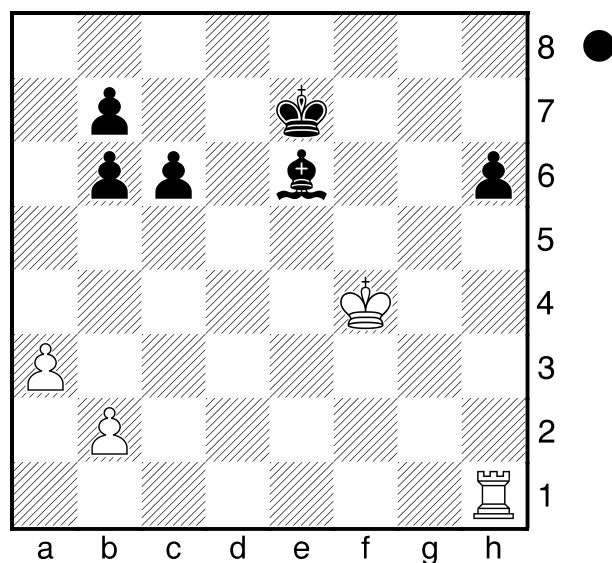
37...Kg6 38.Re1 Kf7

[38...Kf5 39.Re7 c5 40.Kf2 Bd5 is closer to a draw]

39.Kg3 Be6?!

[39...Kf6 40.Re8 Kf5 41.Re7 Ba6 is unsavory but adequate.]

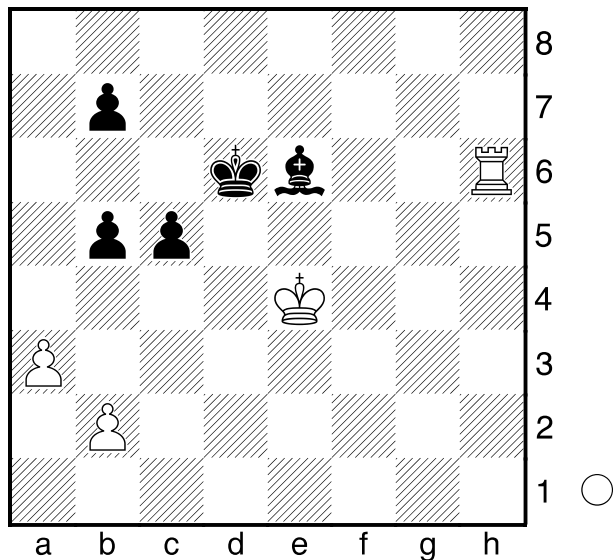
40.Kf4 Ke7 41.Rh1



Kd6?? He's the one running low on time, so of course I'm the one to blunder.

[41...Kd7 42.Rxf6 Bb3 is, again, barely (maybe) holdable.]

42.Rxh6+- c5 43.Ke4 b5



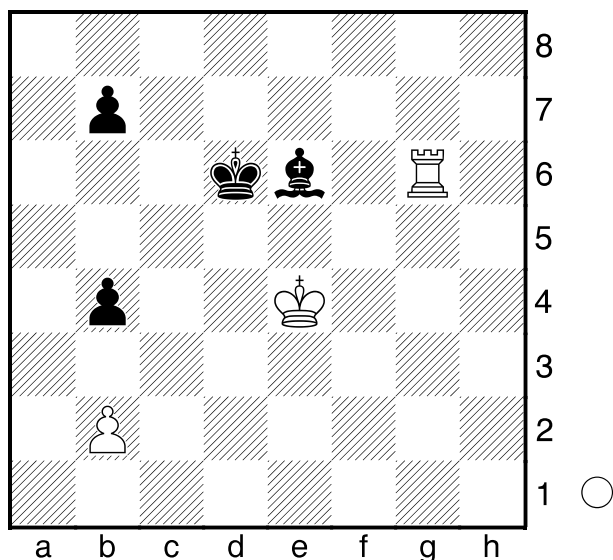
44.Rg6?

[44.b4!+-]

44...b4?

[44...Kd7! 45.b4 Bb3!± 46.Rg3 (46.bxc5?? Bc2+) 46...c4± and after ...b6 I have an actual fortress!]

45.axb4!+- cxb4



Tablebase: 1-0 46.Kd4 b5 47.Rh6 b3
Perhaps if I'd remembered the 50 move rule (!!) this game could have been shorter! Starting the count here, move 97 would have been the draw. And I had

time (maybe fifteen minutes, he was the one who'd all but used up his time bank)... 48.Rg6 Kd7 49.Kc5 Bc4 50.Rg7+ Kc8 51.Kc6 Kb8 52.Re7 Bd3 53.Kb6

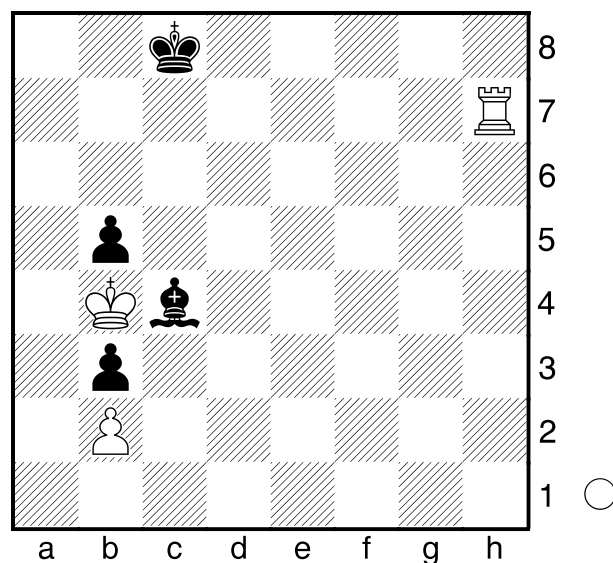
[53.Re8+ Ka7 54.Re3 Bc4 55.Re1 Kb8 56.Re8+ Ka7 57.Kc7!]

There's the win -- Re1-Ra1 mate, and ...Ka6 doesn't stop it.]

53...Kc8 54.Ra7 Bc4 55.Ra8+

The last move on Bambou's scoresheet -- he was down well below five minutes.

55...Kd7 56.Rh8 Be2 57.Rh3 Bc4 58.Rh7+ Kc8 59.Kc5 Kb8 60.Kb4 Kc8



Okay, new scoresheet. We now play *another* sixty moves! (Well, he offered the draw on after 60 so I only got to play 59.) The win escaped him, what with this being delay so you never have more than a bit over five seconds. 61.Rh4 Kc7 62.Rh6 Kb7 63.Kc5 Ka7 64.Rb6 Bd3 65.Kc6 Bc4 66.Kc7 Uh-oh 66...Bd3 67.Rd6 Bc4 68.Rd7?!

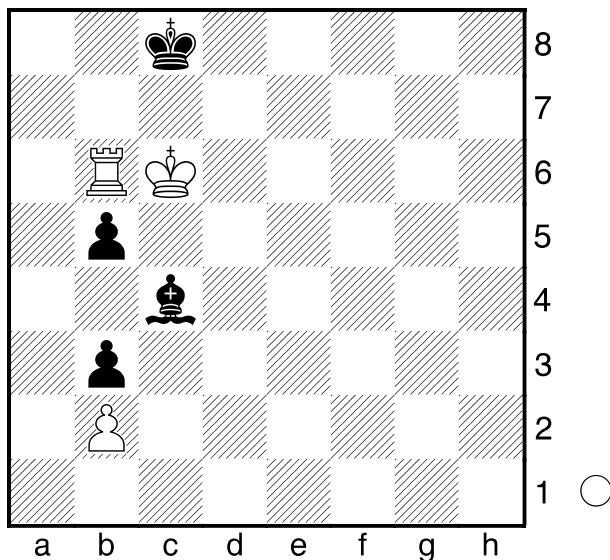
[68.Rd1]

68...Be6 69.Re7 Bc4 70.Kc6+?! Ka6 71.Re8 Ka7 72.Rc8 Bd3 73.Kc5 Kb7 74.Rc6 Bc4 75.Rb6+ Ka7 76.Rf6 Kb7 77.Kb4 Kc7 78.Ka5 Kb7 79.Rh6 Kc7 80.Ka6 Bd3 81.Ka7 Bc4 82.Rh5 Kc6

83.Rg5 Bd3 84.Ka6 Bc4 85.Ka5 Kb7 86.Rg6 Kc7 87.Rb6 He was stuck on the idea of playing Rxb5, which will never work if my king is two moves from b5. **87...Bd3 88.Rh6 Kb7 89.Rh3 Bc4 90.Rc3 Kc6 91.Kb4 Kb6 92.Rc1 Kc6 93.Rh1**

[93.Rxc4+ bxc4 94.Kxc4 Kb6 95.Kxb3 when there is a single drawing move, Kb5=]

93...Kb6 94.Rc1 Kc6 95.Rh1 Kb6 96.Rh6+ Kc7 97.Kc5 I could claim now. If I'd been awake. **97...Kb7 98.Rc6 Be2 99.Rb6+ Kc7 100.Re6 Bc4 101.Re7+ Kd8 102.Ra7 Kc8 103.Kb6 Kb8 104.Ra3 Kc8 105.Ra8+ Kd7 106.Rb8 Be2 107.Kc5 Kc7 108.Re8 Bc4 109.Re7+ Kb8 110.Kc6 Bd3 111.Rb7+ Kc8 112.Rb6 Bc4**



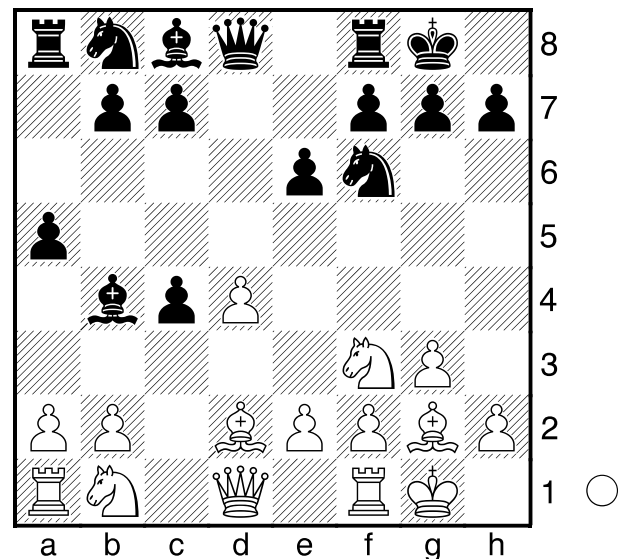
113.Rxb5

[The ever-helpful computer, perhaps modeled after speaking bots of TV and movies from the 60s, points out that 113.Rb8+ is also a draw...]

113...Bxb5+ 114.Kxb5 Kb7 115.Kb4 Kb6 116.Kc3 Kc5 Drat. **117.Kxb3 Kb5 118.Kc3 Kc5 119.b3 Kb5 120.Kc2 1/2-1/2**

E04
2223
1986
 2023 Fall TNM: 2000+ (5.2) 03.10.2023
[Winslow,Elliott]

Dasika meanwhile had a typically refined performance, against the always well-prepared Max Hao. The Catalan is seen a lot at all levels locally, offering unbalanced positions (well, usually) and chances for both sides. **1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.g3 Bb4+ 5.Bd2 a5 6.Bg2 dxc4 7.0-0 0-0**



8.e3!? Rare but has done well.

Especially compared to the "usual" but not-scoring-so-well:

[8.Qc2 1-0 30, Winslow-Hao, Haring TNM 18 Aug 2023.]

[8.Bg5]

[8.a3]

8...Bxd2N

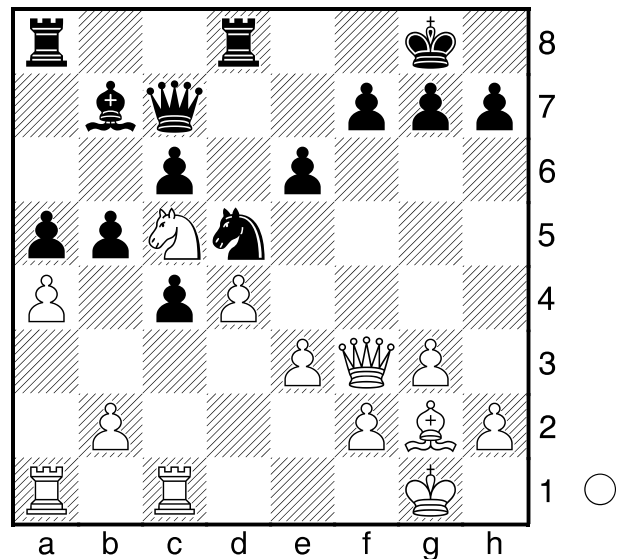
[Relevant: 8...c5 9.dxc5 Nc6 (9...Bxc5 10.Qc2 Nbd7 11.Rd1 Qe7 12.Qxc4 e5 13.Bc3 e4 14.Nfd2 b5 15.Qxb5 Ba6 16.Qa4 Nb6 17.Bxf6 Nxa4 18.Bxe7 Bxe7 19.Nc3 Nxc3 20.bxc3 f5 21.Nb3 a4 22.Nd4 Rac8 23.Rac1 Ba3 24.Rb1 Rxc3 25.Bf1 Bxf1 26.Kxf1 Be7 27.Rb7 Bf6

28.Nxf5 Rc2 29.Nd6 Rd8 30.Rbb1
Rxa2 31.Nxe4 Rxd1+ 32.Rxd1 Be7
33.Nc3 Ra3 34.Rc1 Kf7 35.Ke2 Bf6
36.Kd2 Ke6 37.e4 g5 38.f4
½-½ Shevchenko,K (2694)-

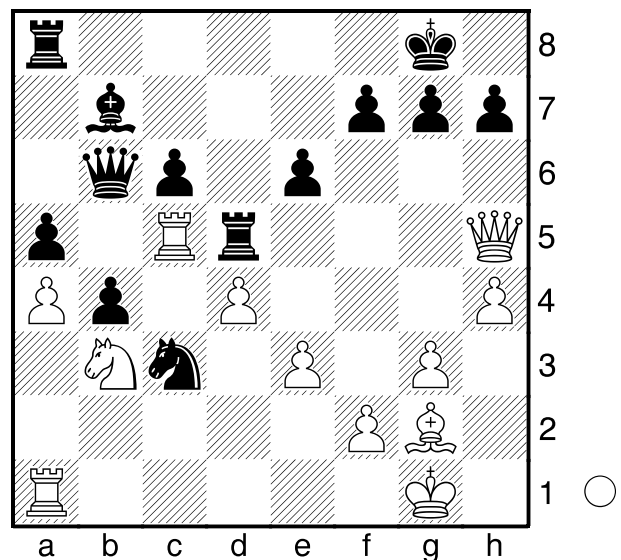
Tabatabaei,M (2689) Budapest
Hetenyi Memorial 2023 (3)) 10.Bxb4
axb4 11.Nbd2 Qd3 12.Ne1 Qf5
13.Qc2 Qxc5 14.Nd3 Qh5 15.Nf4
Qh6 16.Nxc4 e5 17.Nd5 Be6
18.Nc7 b3 19.axb3 Rxa1 20.Rxa1
Bh3 21.Qe2 e4 22.Nb5 Bg4 23.Qf1
Qh5 24.Nc3 Bf3 25.Nd2 Qf5
26.Qb1 Ne5 27.Ncxe4 Nxe4
28.Nxe4 Bxg2 29.Kxg2 h6 30.Nd2
Nd3 31.Qf1 Rd8 32.Nc4 b5 33.Nd2
Nxf2 34.Rd1 0-1 Molenda,M (2378)-
Movsesian,S (2633) CZE-chT 1819
Czech Republic 2018 (3.5)]
[8...Ra6!? 9.a4 c5 10.Qc2 cxd4
11.Nxd4 e5 12.Nb5 Be6 13.Rd1
Qe7 14.N1a3 Rc8 15.Rac1 h5̄
16.b3?? Bxa3 0-1 Skatchkov,V
(2242)-Korobov,A (2688) Titled
Tuesday intern op 25th Aug Chess.
com INT blitz 2020 (8)]

9.Nbxd2 b5 10.Ne5 Nd5 11.Qh5 Bb7
12.Ne4 Nd7 13.Nxd7 Qxd7 14.Nc5
Black might be up a pawn, but White has
a positional grip that doesn't fade.
14...Qc8 15.a4 c6 16.Rfc1 Rd8
17.Qf3 Qc7

(Diagram)

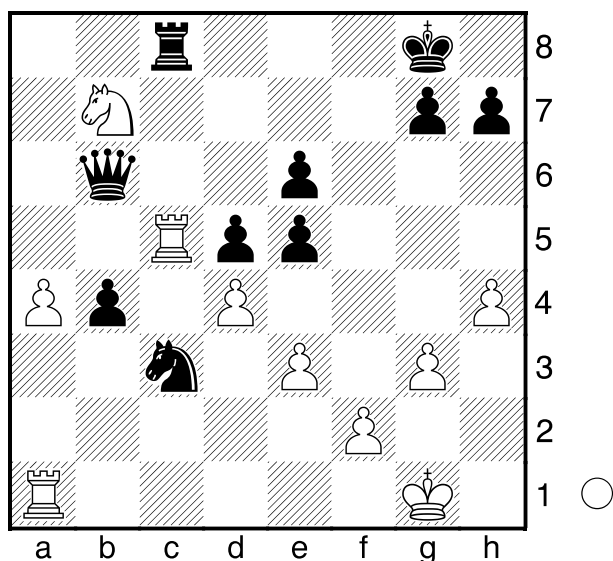


18.b3 cxb3 19.Nxb3 b4 20.Rc5 Qb6
21.h4 Nc3 22.Qh5 Rd5

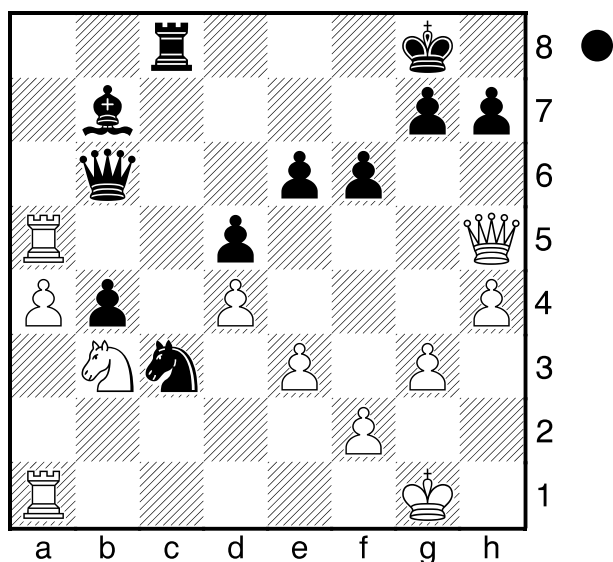


23.Bxd5± cxd5?!
[23...exd5]
24.Qe5+- Rc8 25.Rxa5?!
[25.Nxa5! f6 26.Nxb7! fxe5

(Diagram)



27.Rxc8+ Kf7 28.Nd8+ Kf6 29.a5
Qa6 30.dxe5+ Kxe5 (30...Ke7
31.Nc6+ Kf7 32.Rc7+ Kg6 33.Nxb4)
31.Rb8+-]
25...f6± 26.Qh5



Ne4?

[26...Rf8 27.Rc5 Ba6 28.a5 Qb8
29.Qg4! (29.Rc6? Be2!-+ 30.g4!?
Bd3!-+) 29...f5 30.Qg5 Qd6
31.Kg2+-]
27.Rb5+- Qc6 28.Rc1 Nc3 29.Rxb4
g6 30.Qg4
[30.Qf3!]
30...f5 31.Qf3 Ba6 32.Kh2 Qd6

33.Nc5! Na2 34.Nxa6

[34.Rcb1!? Nxb4 35.Rxb4 Rc6
36.Qd1]

34...Rxc1 35.Rb8+ Kg7 36.Rb7+ Kh6

37.Nc5

[37.Kg2!]

37...e5 38.Rd7 e4 39.Qe2 Qb6

40.Qxa2 Qb4 41.Nb3!

[41.Nd3 exd3 42.g4 Qb8+ 43.Kg2
Rc7 44.Rxc7 Qxc7 45.Qa3+-]

41...Rd1

[41...Rc3 42.Nd2 Ra3 43.Qc2 Rc3
44.Qd1 Rd3 45.g4]

42.Qe2! (Actually the only move, but
winning) **42...Qxb3 43.g4!**

Mate follows.

1-0

B90

□ **Wong,Wilson**

1794

■ **Gu,Chunhui**

1600

2023 Fall TNM: 1600-1999 (5.11) 3.10.23
[Wong,Wilson]

(EW): Wilson is in the group of four in
the lead for the 1600-1999 section. His
prolific annotations are a regular
addition to the games, and this one was
no exception. Let's see him take down
Gu the elder, a family of Najdorf
aficionados from both sides (see
Chunhui's win over Calvert in the
previous round). **1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6**
3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.f3
e5 7.Nb3 Be6 8.Be3 h5 9.Nd5
Nxd5?! With White not having made a
move with either queen or king bishop,
this is less desirable.

[(EW): Mostly one sees 9...Bxd5!
(by almost 20 to 1!) 10.exd5 Nbd7
11.Qd2 g6 with so many games by
2700 players to study.]

10.exd5 Bf5 11.Bd3 Bxd3 12.Qxd3±
Nd7 13.0-0-0 Last book move. **13...a5**
Only a couple games previously;

[(EW): 13...Be7 well over a hundred.
14.Kb1 (14.f4!?!; 14.Nd2!?!; 14.h4!?!)]

14.Kb1 I played this too quickly, not giving a4 much consideration. a4 seems to really slow down Black's attack and freezes Black's queenside pawns.

[14.a4 This looked like a way to shut down Black's queenside and fix Black's pawns to dark squares. With no pawn breaks in the queenside, I'll have all the time in the world to attack Black's kingside. If Black tries to keep the position closed and leaves the king in the center, I can still open lines on the kingside and use my superior space advantage and better piece coordination to make progress.]

14...a4 15.Nd2 I preferred this over Nc1 since it takes less time to get my knight into the game. Nc1, Ne2, g4, Ng3 doesn't do anything and Black can just play ...g6, making the knight journey a huge waste of time. Much quicker is just my move, then Ne4, Ng4, and Black push it away with pawns without creating new outposts. **15...a3 16.b4** White can capture Black's a3-pawn for free then play for a passed pawn on the queenside.

[16.b3! 16 Stockfish]

16...Qc7

[16...Be7!?!]

17.Nc4! g6 18.Nxa3 Rc8 19.Nb5

[19.c4 I didn't give this much thought but didn't like it since c5 is not happening.]

19...Qc4 20.c3 I wanted to get a4 in one go. I'm unsure if the rook endgame is enough, but I think the position is a lot harder to play and execute my plan with all these pieces on the board and if Black is given time to reorganize, it might be unclear whether I can take advantage of my queenside majority to make a strong enough passed pawn. **20...Be7 21.h4** Grabbing space, freezing Black's g6-

pawn and preparing to open Black's kingside if Black castles kingside.

21...Qxd3+ 22.Rxd3 Nf6 23.Bg5

Black's e7-bishop is overloaded. I don't mind getting rid of minor pieces since it'll make pushing my pawns easier but it's also probably a draw if I force trades too quickly while Black's king is close to the action.

[23.Kc2 Stockfish likes this, not wasting moves trying to force trades. Black is behind in development and most of White's pieces are already in position to support White's queenside plays.]

23...Kd7 24.Kc2 Ne8 Black's rooks are disconnected. Black wasting lots of time makes it far more likely I'll succeed in my queenside pawn pushing plan.

25.Kb3 Bxg5

[25...f5 This pawn structure is very effective at squares control.]

26.hxg5 A good recapture for me. My 4 d-to-g pawns are effectively halting Black's 5 d-to-h pawns. **26...Nc7 27.c4** I'm happy with ...Nxb5 cxb5 since I'll be able to create a protected passed pawn on the queenside which is enough to win the game. **27...Nxb5 28.cxb5 b6 29.a4** Intending to push a5. Black can try to blockade the queenside pawns but I can then also threaten to open the e- or h-files to overload Black. **29...Kc7**

30.Rc3+ Kb7 31.Rc6 Intending to double rooks if Black just tries to defend their d6-pawn. **31...Rxc6** I wasn't sure which recapture was better, with the main goal of not allowing Black to create a fortress. **32.bxc6+** However Black plays, I will get passed b- and c-pawns.

32...Ka6 33.b5+ Ka7

[33...Ka5 Note this doesn't work because it will put Black in zugzwang. 34.c7 Rc8 35.Rc1 And Black will have to sacrifice lots of pawns and still end up losing.]

34.Kb4 Kb8 35.a5 Kc7 36.Ra1 Ra8
37.axb6+
1-0

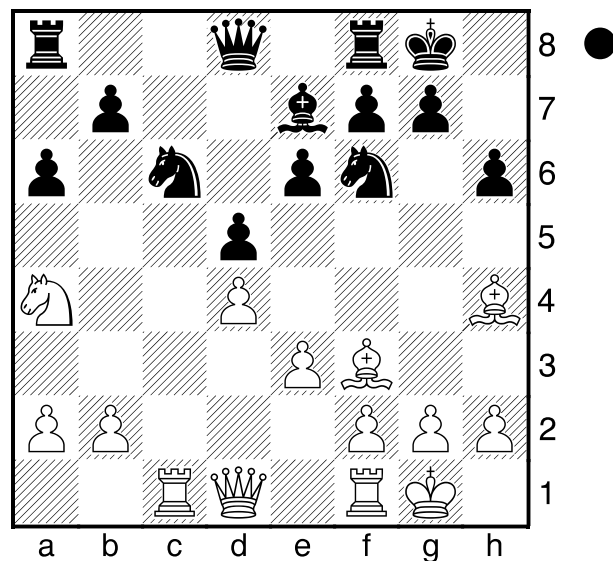
Dasika,Archit **D13**
2223
 Bambou,Christophe **2093**
 2023 Fall TNM: 2000+ (6.1) 10.10.2023
[Winslow,Elliott]

On first board, with both players able to match Ruiyang's five and a half score by winning both this and the next game, it is no quiet story. Once again, in a relatively dry position Bambou whips up some craziness via a knight sacrifice, then a rook sacrifice! NOT sound! But -- Dasika loses his way! Bambou's pawn army is causing, if not a win, then at least a perpetual. But one wrong king move... **1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.cxd5**

This and the Catalan are Dasika's White repertoire. **3...cxd5 4.Nc3 Nf6 5.Bf4 Nc6 6.e3 a6 7.Nf3 Bg4 8.Be2 e6 9.0-0 Bxf3 10.Bxf3 Bd6 11.Bg5 Be7 12.Rc1 h6 13.Bh4 0-0 14.Na4**

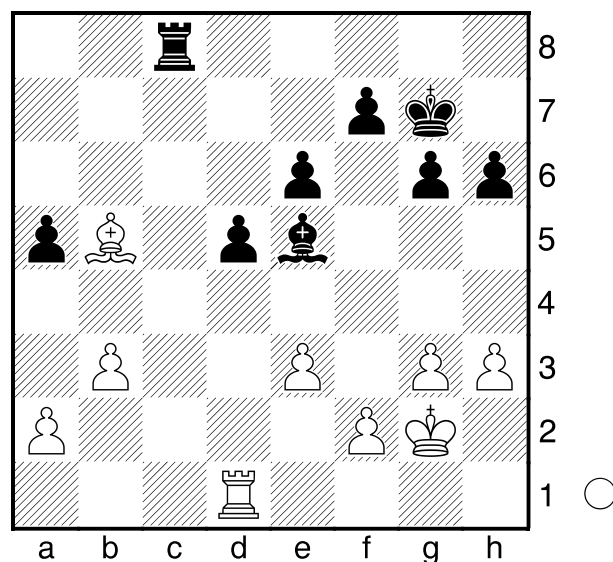
[Relevant: 14.a3 Ne8 15.Bxe7 Qxe7 16.e4 dxe4 17.Bxe4 Nf6 18.Bxc6 bxc6 19.Qf3 ½-½ Budisavljevic,L (2491)-Gledura,B (2645) Aimchess Play In op Chess.com INT rapid 2023 (7)]

(Diagram)



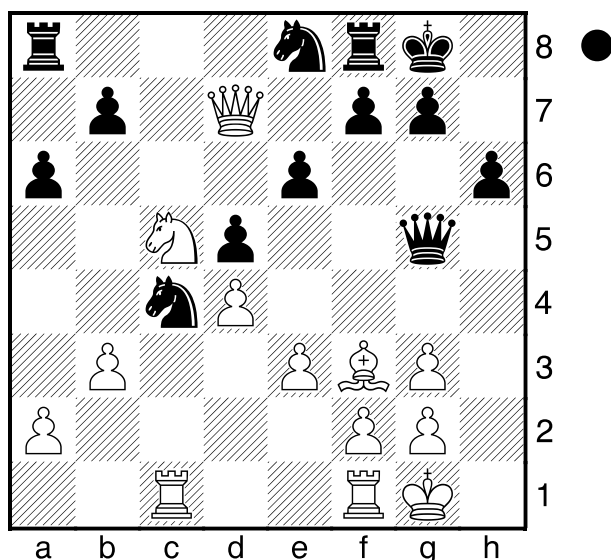
14...Ne8 I hesitate to call this a mistake, but letting White's knight establish on c5 can't be a happy choice.

[Standard in the Exchange Slav is 14...Nd7 and here is no exception. Watch one of the undisputed great Slav players make it happen (yes, it's yet another blitz game): 15.Bg3 Rc8 16.Nc5 Nxc5 17.dxc5 b6 18.cxb6 Qxb6 19.b3 Rfd8 20.Qe2 Bf6 21.h3 a5 22.Rfd1 Ne5 23.Bxe5 Bxe5 24.Qd3 g6 25.Be2 Qb4 26.g3 Kg7 27.Kg2 Rc5 28.Rxc5 Qxc5 29.Qb5 Qxb5 30.Bxb5 Rc8



31.e4? dxe4 32.Re1 f5 33.Bd7 Rc2
 34.Bxe6 Bd4 35.Rf1 Kf6 36.Bc4
 Rxa2 37.Kh2 Rxf2+ 38.Rxf2 Bxf2
 39.Kg2 Bd4 40.Kf1 g5 41.Ke2 f4
 42.gxf4 gxf4 43.Kf1 Ke5 44.Ke2
 0-1 Odegov,A (2286)-Kamsky,G
 (2661) Titled Tuesday intern op 05th
 Apr Early Chess.com INT blitz 2022
 (1)]

15.Bg3 Bd6 16.Nc5 Bxg3 17.hxg3
Qe7 18.Qb3 Na5 19.Qa4 Nc4 20.Qd7
Qg5 Still, White's plus is minimal if at all.
 And Black's knight is no worse. **21.b3**
 [21.Nxb7 Nf6=]
 [21.Qxb7 Ned6=]



21...Nd2?

[21...Ncd6! 22.Nxb7?? Ra7-+]

22.Rfd1!± Nxf3+ 23.gxf3 b5 24.Qc6

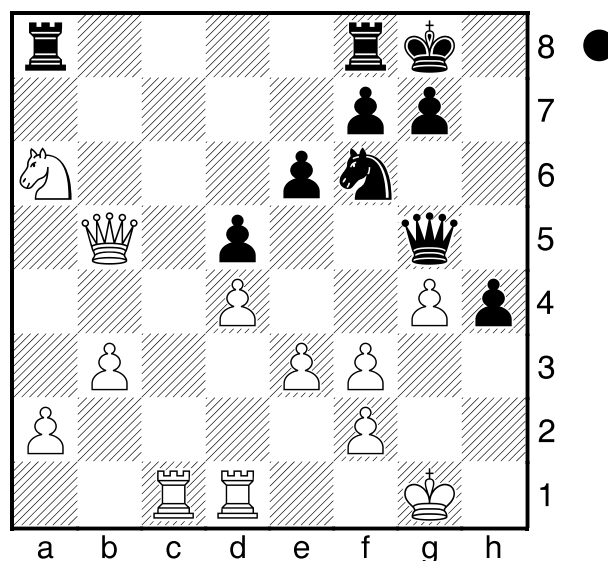
[After all its time there, it's time to
 abandon c5 and let the rooks in:
 24.Nd3!?]

24...Nf6!? 25.Nxa6 h5 26.Qxb5

[26.Nb4!?]

26...h4 27.g4

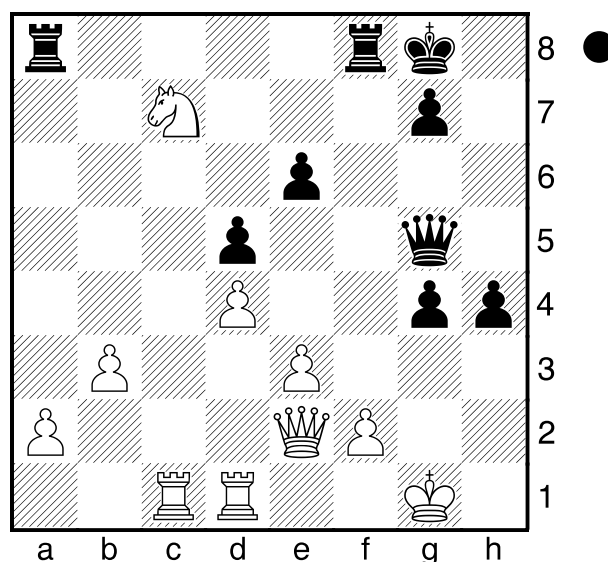
(Diagram)



Nxg4!? Well, no, it's actually a mistake
 bordering on a blunder. But it's signature
 Bamboo!

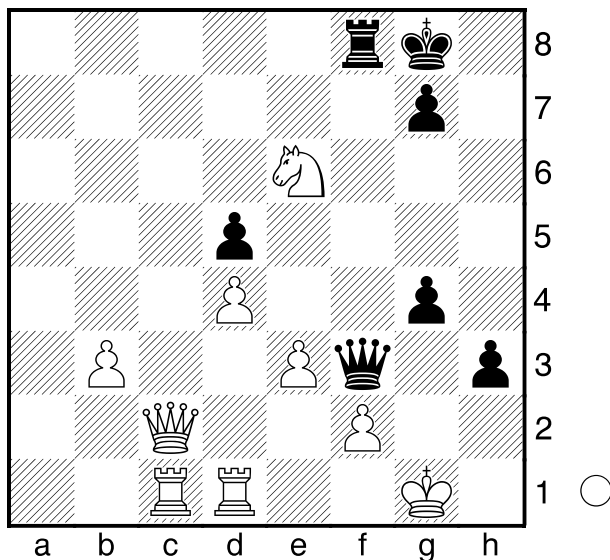
[27...Nh7 intending a more sedate ...
 f5 still has White winning after 28.a4!
 f5 29.Nc7! fxf4 30.f4 But it's still
 scary!]

28.fxf4 f5 29.Qe2 fxf4 30.Nc7



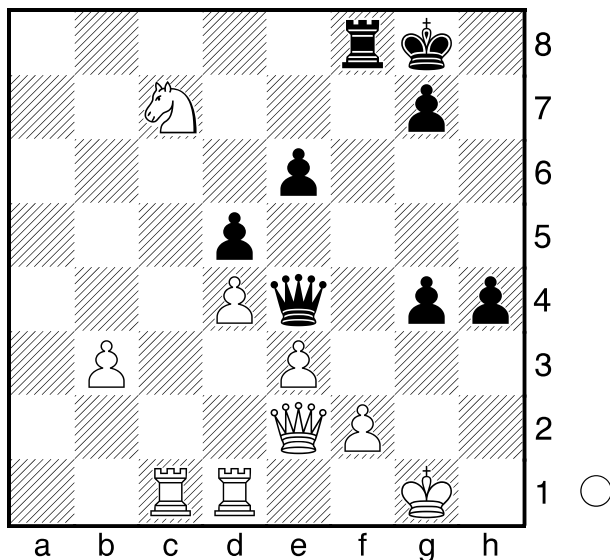
Stockfish has White totally winning here,
 over +4. And Christophe played the 9th
 best move now. I looked over and
 remember they both had about the same
 time left, in the 25-30 minute range, so
 that wasn't in play... **30...Rxa2!?**

31.Qxa2 Qf5 32.Qe2 The natural defense, but
 [32.Qc2 Qf3 33.Nxe6 h3



34.Qh7+!! Kxh7 (34...Kf7 35.Qxg7+ Kxe6 36.Rc6+ Kf5 37.Qg6#)
35.Ng5+ leaves White up a rook and a pawn.]

32...Qe4



33.Nb5?? This ruins White's totally won position. Stockfish gives a dozen or so moves as winning: at least a couple of them must work. :-) **33...h3!= 34.f3**
 It's either this
 [or 34.Qf1 Rf5 with ...h2+ on the

loose: (or 34...Rf6=)

A) 35.f3? Qxe3+ 36.Kh1 (36.Qf2 h2+ 37.Kg2 gxf3+-) 36...g3!-+;

B) 35.Rc8+ Kh7

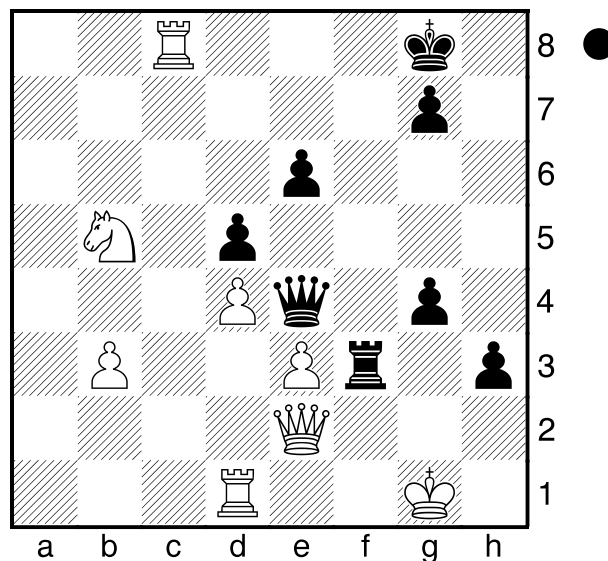
B1) 36.f4= h2+! 37.Kxh2 Rh5+ 38.Kg3 Rh3+ 39.Qxh3+ gxh3 and it's drawn after only four moves: 40.Rg1 (40.Kh4; 40.Ra1; 40.Rcc1);

B2) 36.f3 Rxf3= (36...Qxe3+=);

C) 35.f4]

34...Rxf3 35.Rc8+

[35.Nc3 h2+ 36.Qxh2 Qxe3+! draws as well]



best!? **35...Kf7??**

[35...Kh7! not only doesn't lose the queen, it is a perpetual!! Christophe mentioned his last without quite noting what was going on; I didn't look at a board and see just what he had done until another email.]

36.Nd6+

1-0

B08

□ Anderson, Michael Gene

1900

■ Lewis, Edward

1942

2023 Fall TNM: 2000+ (6.5) 10.10.2023

[Anderson, Michael Gene/Winslow, Elliott (ew)]

1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.Nc3 d6 4.Be3 a6

5.a4 Nd7 With a2-a4 in, Black could consider lines with ...Nc6. (ew)

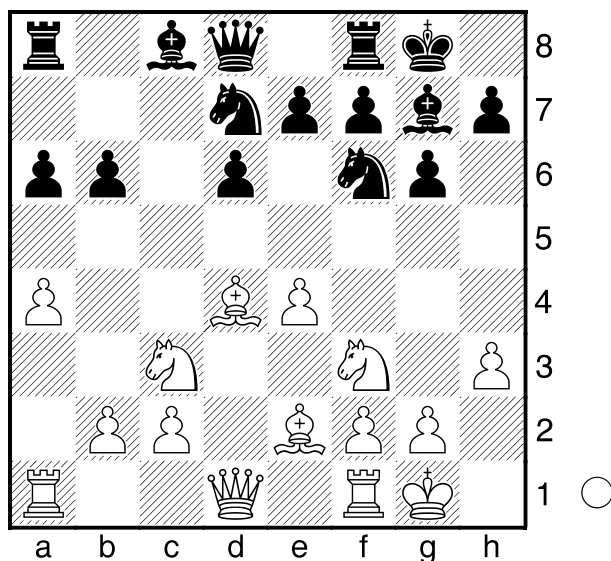
6.Nf3 Ngf6 7.h3 0-0 8.Be2

[8.e5! Ne8 9.Bc4 Nb6 10.Ba2±]

8...c5 9.0-0

[9.d5!±]

9...cxd4 10.Bxd4 b6



11.Be3N A fantastically stupid move. 11.e5 is the only realistic move.

[11.e5 dxe5 12.Nxe5 Bb7 13.Nxd7 (13.Re1; 13.Qc1) 13...Qxd7 14.Bxf6 (14.Be3) 14...Qxd1 15.Rfxd1 Bxf6 16.Nd5 Bxd5 ½-½ Liebelt, J (2094)-Muse, D (2317) Berlin Werner Ott op 2022 (4)]

[11.Re1 is fine as well (ew)]

11...Bb7 12.Nd2 Rc8 13.Re1 Nc5

14.Bf3

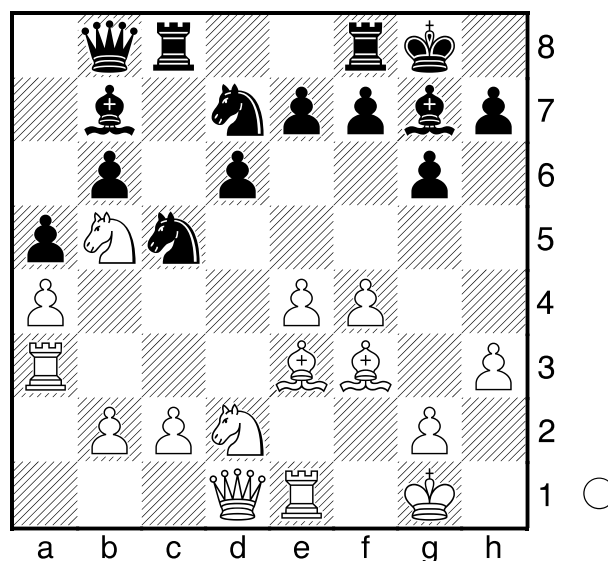
[14.Bf1]

14...Nfd7 15.Ra3 Ne5

[15...b5!±]

16.Be2 a5= 17.f4 Ned7 18.Bf3 Qc7

19.Nb5 Qb8



20.Bd4?! e5!± 21.Bc3?!

[21.fxe5 dxe5 22.Bf2]

[21.Be3 exf4 22.Bxf4 Ne5]

21...Rfd8?

[21...Bc6!±]

22.Nc4! Nf8?? 23.b3?? Yet another fantastically stupid move...smh.

[23.Nxb6+- nets a 2.x point advantage.]

23...d5??

[23...Nxe4! 24.Bxe4 best Bxe4

25.Rxe4 d5 26.Bxe5! dxe4 27.Qxd8

Rxd8 28.Bxb8 Rxb8 29.f5!? Rd8!?]

Black clearly has the better of it, but whether it's enough to win is not so clear (ew).]

[23...Bxe4!]

24.exd5□ e4 25.Bxg7! exf3?

[25...Rxd5 26.Be5!? Rxd1 27.Rxd1

Qa8 28.Nxb6 Qa6 29.Nxc8 Bxc8

30.Be2±]

26.Qa1?? "There are not enough question marks for this move." ---Walter Shawn Browne Just simply 26. Be5 and "gin," as ecw says... This is the essence of time pressure.

[Stockfish 9: 1) 26.Be5 3.42/34 Rxd5

27.Bxb8 Rxd1 28.Rxd1 Rxb8

29.gxf3 Black may get some pawns back, with play around White's king,

and that rook on a3... but it's a win for White (ew). Bxf3 30.Rd6 Be4]
 [These other moves Mike gives,
 26.Qxf3 0.27/34]
 [and 26.Nxb6 0.08/33 , are insignificant
 compared to 26.Be5 (although they're
 a lot better than played!) (ew).]

26...f2+??

[26...Qxf4! 27.Rf1 Bxd5-+
 after various tries (ew).]

**27.Kxf2 Qxf4+ 28.Kg1 Bxd5 29.Bh8
 Nce6** ...and White lost on time. In a
 drawn position. Which nobody would find
 with an hour on the clock (ew).

[29...Nfe6! 30.Be5! Qg5 31.Re2!
 Nd7!±]

[29...Nce6?! 30.Ne3! Bxg2! 31.Nxg2
 Qh6 Stockfish 16 makes this ... slight
 plus Black!]

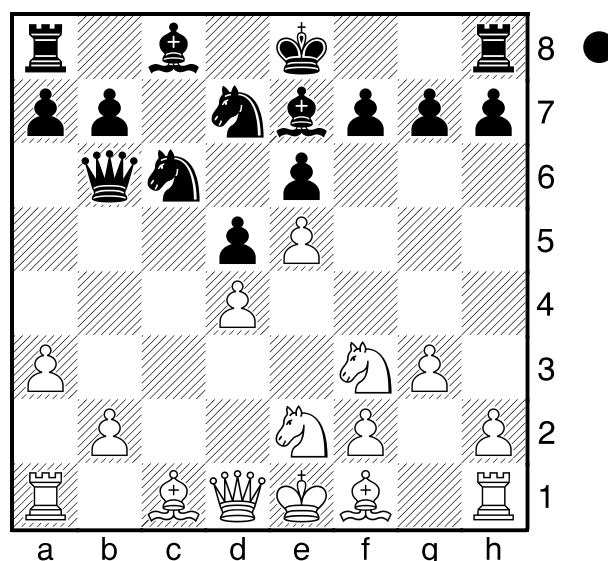
0-1

□ **Tirouvingadame, Arivoli** **C11**
1650
 ■ **Dutter, Frederic** **1918**
 2023 FNM: 1600-1999 (6.8) 10.10.2023
[Tirouvingadame, Arivoli/Winslow, Elliott]

This game was quite exciting -- "Oli" sent
 in a few notes, but then I noticed (via a
 few missteps by both players) an
 incredible ending, featuring some ballet
 on the part of White's king... **1.e4 Nf6**
2.Nc3 d5 3.e5 Nfd7 4.d4 e6 5.Nce2
c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.a3 Be7

[7...cxd4 8.cxd4 f6 9.exf6 Qxf6
 10.f4 Bd6 11.Nf3 0-0 12.Be3 Nb6
 13.b3 a5 14.Ne5 Qe7 15.a4 g5
 16.g3 gxf4 17.Bxf4 Bb4+ 18.Kf2
 Nd7 19.Kg2 Ndx e5 20.dxe5 Qg7
 21.Qc1 Rf5 22.h4 Bd7 23.Ra2 Raf8
 24.Kh2 Nxe5 25.Bxe5 Rf2+ 26.Bg2
 Qxe5 27.Qg5+ Qxg5 28.hxg5 e5
 29.Nc1 e4 30.Rd1 Be6 31.Kg1 Bc5
 32.Kh1 b6 33.Re1 Rxa2 34.Nxa2
 Rf2 35.Nc3 Rc2 36.Nb5 Bg4

37.Nc7 0-1 Ladrón de Guevara Pinto,
 P (2429)-Adla, D (2393) ESP-chT
 CECLUB Div1 Sanxenxo 2022 (7.2)]
8.g3 cxd4 9.cxd4 Qb6 10.Nf3

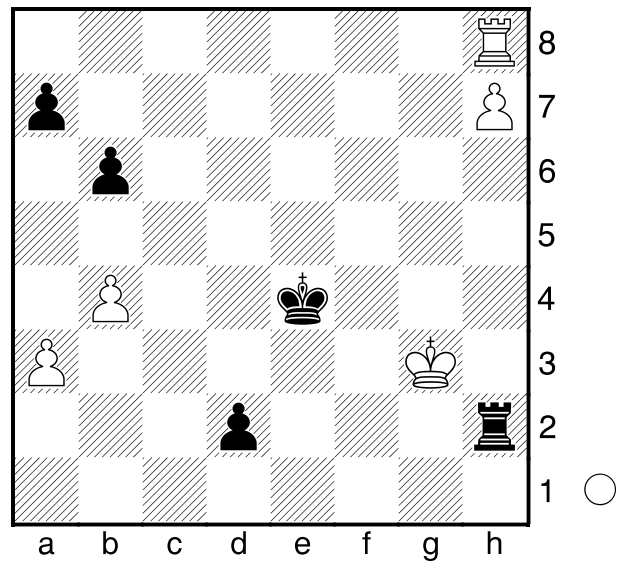


f5N

[Predecessor: 10...0-0 11.Bh3 Na5
 12.0-0 Nb8 13.Nc3 Nb3 14.Rb1
 Nxc1 15.Qxc1 Nc6 16.Rd1 a5
 17.Qc2 f5 18.Bf1 Bd7 19.Na4 Qa7
 20.Nc5 Nxd4 21.Rxd4 Bxc5 22.Rh4
 Rac8 23.Qd2 Be7 24.Rh3 Rc7
 25.Bd3 Rfc8 26.Ng5 Bxg5 27.Qxg5
 Qd4 28.Qe3 Qxe3 29.fxe3 Rc5
 30.Rh4 Bb5 31.Bxb5 Rxb5 32.Rd4
 Rc2 33.b4 Rc3 34.a4 Rxb4
 35.Rdxb4 axb4 36.Rxb4 Rc7 37.Kf2
 g5 38.h3 h5 39.g4 fxg4 40.hxg4
 ½-½ Riggins, D-Ward, T East Lansing-
 ch MI op 1982]
11.Bg2 Na5 12.0-0 Nb3 13.Rb1 Nxc1
14.Qxc1 Nf8 15.h4 Bd7 16.Nc3 Qd8
17.Qe3 h6 18.b4 g5 19.h5 g4 20.Nd2
Bg5 21.Qe2 Rc8 22.Qd3 Bxd2
23.Qxd2 Qg5 24.Qd3 Rc7 25.Nb5
 [25.Rbc1 Nh7 26.Ne2 Qd8 27.Nf4
 a6 28.a4 Lichess says +1.7]
25...Bxb5 26.Qxb5+ Kf7 27.Rfd1 Qe7
28.Rbc1 Nh7
 [28...Rh7=]
29.Rc5=

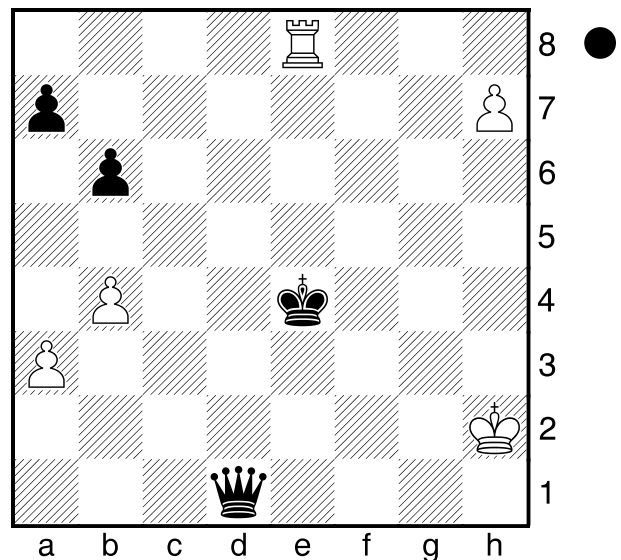
[29.Bxd5!? exd5 30.e6+ Kg7
31.Qxd5±]
29...b6 30.Rxc7?
 [30.Rc6]
30...Qxc7 31.Qd3 Rc8?
 [31...Ng5]
32.f3
 [32.Bxd5! exd5 33.Qxf5+ Kg7
34.Qxg4+ Kh8 35.Kg2=]
32...gxf3 33.Bxf3 Qc3 34.Kf2 Ng5
35.Kg2 Qxd3
 [35...Nxf3 36.Kxf3 (36.Qxf3 Qc2+
and 37...Rc3-+) 36...Qb2! 37.Rd2
Qc1 38.Rd1 Qg5-+]
36.Rxd3 Rc2+ 37.Kg1?
 [37.Kf1 Rc1+ 38.Kf2 b5]
37...Nxf3+?
 [37...Rd2! 38.Rc3 Nxf3+ 39.Rxf3
Rxd4-+ Lichess says -4.5]
38.Rxf3= Rd2 39.g4 Rxd4 40.gxf5
exf5 41.Rxf5+ Ke6 42.Rf6+ Kxe5
43.Rxh6 Rh4 44.Kf2 Ke4 45.Rh8 d4
46.h6 d3?? The king needs shelter in
front of the pawn!
 [46...Kd3]
 [46...Rh3]
 [46...Rh2+]
 [46...Rh1]
 [46...Rf4+ 47.Kg3 Rf7]
 [46...Rh5 are all 0.0 says Lichess.]
47.h7+- Rh2+
 [(EW "taking over":) 47...d2 48.Ke2!
Rh2+ (48...Rh1 49.Kxd2) 49.Kd1
Kd3 50.Rd8+ Ke3 51.h8Q Rxh8
52.Rxh8]
48.Kg3
 [48.Ke1! Rh1+ 49.Kd2 Rh2+ 50.Kc3
d2 51.Kc2]
48...d2

(Diagram)



49.Kxh2?

[49.Rd8? Rxh7 50.Rxd2=]
 [49.Re8+! Kf5 (Black's king is
"shouldered" away from White's king)
50.Kxh2! d1Q 51.h8Q Qd2+ 52.Kg1
Qd1+ 53.Kf2 Qd2+ 54.Re2 Qf4+
55.Kg2 No perpetual! White wins.]
49...d1Q 50.Re8+



Kf4?

[50...Kf3! -- Black threatens mate in
four! 51.Rf8+! Ke3! 52.h8Q Qd6+!=
is a perpetual!]
51.Rf8+? And this lets Black's king get
into range of White's king again!

[51.h8Q! when again there is no perpetual. At first my (EW) computer said "44 moves to mate" and I was thinking "that's not much of a margin of error," but it quickly found a speedier forced mate in 23. Qc2+ 52.Kg1 Qd1+ 53.Kf2 Qf3+ (53...Qd2+ 54.Re2) 54.Ke1 White escapes. Qg3+ 55.Kd2]

51...Kg4 52.Rg8+?

[52.h8Q!+- the only win]

52...Kf4?

[But NOW the only draw is 52...Kf5!! 53.Rf8+ Kg5!! I think it's getting out of the queen's way to deliver the perpetual.]

53.h8Q Qe2+ 54.Rg2

1-0

The Chess Club, Past and Present



Mechanics' Institute chess coaches **Thu Le** (far left) and **Leon Alston** (far right) had birthdays one day apart in September, and celebrated together with **Alyssa Stone**, **Sheryl Kim** (who brought the cake!) and **George Bannan**.



Carroll Mathers Capps (1913-1971) was a long-time Mechanics' Institute member, a chess master, and a well-known science fiction author by the name of [C.C. MacApp](#). Here is a list of all the winners of the Carroll Capps Memorial Tournaments, 1971-2023:

1971 - Julio Kaplan
1972 - Craig Barnes
1973 - James Tarjan
1974 - Walter Browne
1975 - David Strauss and Paul Cornelius
1976 - Jay Whitehead and Max Burkett
1977 - Jeremy Silman and Cicero Braga
1978 - Tournament Canceled
1979 - Nick de Firmian
1980 - John Grefe, Jay Whitehead, and Charles Powell
1981 - Peter Biyiasas and John Grefe
1982 - Jeremy Silman, Peter Biyiasas, Alan Pollard, and Vince McCambridge
1983 - Peter Biyiasas, Craig Mar, and Victor Baja
1984 - Charles Powell, Victor Baja, and Bill Orton
1985 - Nick de Firmian, Peter Biyiasa, Charles Powell, and Rudolfo Hernandez
1986 - Igor Ivanov and Jay Whitehead
1987 - Marc Leski, John Grefe, and Gustavo Darcy Lima
1988 - Guillermo Rey, Bill Orton, and Romulio Fuentes
1989 - Vladimir Strugatsky, Charles Powell, and Rudolfo Hernandez
1990 - Loal Davis
1991 - Walter Browne, Jay Whitehead, and Greg Kotlyar
1992 - Walter Browne and Renard Anderson
1993 - John Grefe, Emmanuel Perez, and Adrian Keatinge-Clay
1994 - Craig Mar, John Grefe, and Rostislav Tsodikov
1995 - Enrico Sevillano and Joe Weber
1996 - Igor Ivanov and Omar Cartagena
1997 - Alexander Baburin
1998 - Mladen Vucic, Mark Pinto, Omar Cartagena, Ron Cusi, and Jonathan Baker
1999 - Russell Wong, Paul Gallegos, David Blohm, Walter Shipman, Agnis Kaugars, Keith Vickers, and Larry Snyder
2000 - Kenneth Hills and Ryan Porter
2001 - Ricardo DeGuzman
2002 - Ricardo DeGuzman and Victor Ossipov
2003 - Ricardo DeGuzman and Batsaikhan Tserendorj
2004 - Nicolas Yap
2005 - Ricardo DeGuzman and Ron Cusi
2006 - Batchimeg Tuvshintugs
2007 - Ricardo DeGuzman
2008 - Ricardo DeGuzman
2009 - Ricardo DeGuzman and Andy Lee
2010 - Vladimir Mezentsev
2011 - Ricardo DeGuzman
2012 - Hayk Manvelyan and Michael Lin
2013 - Ricardo DeGuzman and Gabriel Bick
2014 - Paul Gallegos and Andrew Hong
2015 - Uyanga Byambaa
2016 - Jack Zhu
2017 - Elliott Winslow and Rochelle Wu
2018 - Mike Arne, Ethan Boldi, and Cailen Melville

2019 - Kyron Griffith
2020 - Tournament Canceled
2021 - Lucas Lesniewski
2022 - Kyron Griffith and Sricharan Pullela
2023 - Sasha Kagle and Kian Jamali



Polina Tymchenko (left) and **Maksim Manakov** (right) stare each other down at a photoshoot in the Chess Room on September 22nd.



A scene from the Chess Room, 1984. Photograph by Alan Benson.



Mechanics' Institute chess coach **Thu Le** (left) caught a game on a recent visit to the St. Louis Chess Club.



A scene from the crowded Chess Room in the 1950s.



There was a terrific turnout of nearly 40 people at our monthly Chess Social on Friday, October 6. Join us next month!



The Chess Scuttlebutt

Links to some of the news that make up our world.

NBA Star Derrick Rose is [busted](#) playing chess on his phone during a Drake concert.

Local chess wizard IM Ladia Jirasek is [profiled](#) in the San Jose Mercury News.

Mechanics' Institute member, chess enthusiast, and financial planner Taylor Zachary is interviewed [here](#).

USCF President Randy Bauer [melts down](#) on Facebook over the USCF's handling of sexual assault allegations, spurring an outcry and calls for his resignation.

Oakland has a [new](#) chess club.

Hans Niemann [calls out](#) Piers Morgan in a viral interview.

IM Jeremy Silman's [obituary](#) in the New York Times.

10-year old Punithamalar Rajashekar from Malaysia sets a Guinness World Record of 45.72 seconds for setting up the pieces on a chess board [blindfolded](#).

The United States [wins](#) the World Senior Team Championship 50+.

Mechanics' Institute brings [outdoor chess](#) back to San Francisco.

The City of Berkeley [shuts down](#) outdoor chess on Telegraph Avenue - spurring a human "[Chess-In](#)" protest at the next city council meeting.

The 2023 U.S. Senior Women's Chess Championship is being held November 3 -5 at the [Berkeley Chess Chess School](#), and WIM Alexey Root is having a book-signing there.

Argentina hails their new Chess Queen, [Girls Junior World Champion](#) WGM Candela Belén Francisco Guecamburu.

GM Marc' Andria Maurizzi of France [wins](#) the Open World Junior World Championship.

The St. Louis Chess Club releases a [statement](#) about the allegations of sexual harassment concerning GM Alejandro Ramirez, and promise to do better in the future.

The new City College of San Francisco Chess Club meets on Thursdays from 1:30-3:00 pm.
Contact: ccsfchessclub@gmail.com

A new [study](#) shows that even parents and coaches short-change girls' potential in chess.

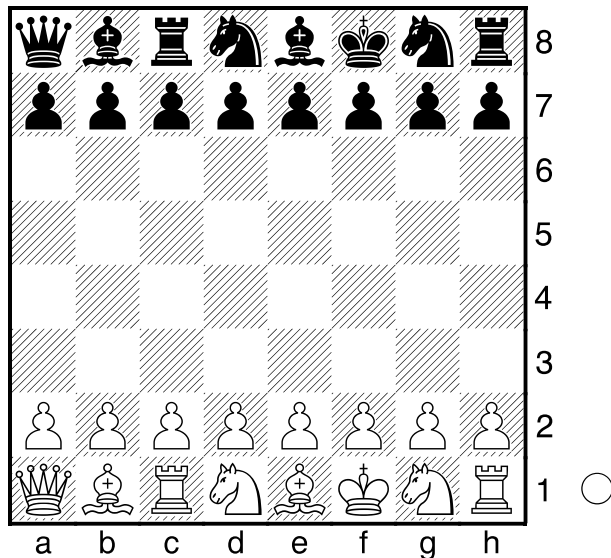
Coming up at Mechanics' Institute on October 24 before the [Fast Fall Blitz](#): author talk and [book signing](#) with IM Ladia Jirasek, author of [How to Chess](#).

Mechanics' Institute Chess Coach Zorba Hughes took the (k)night off for [Comedy Day](#).

Recent Games

A selection of games from around the world that have caught our attention.

Xiong,Jeffery **2700**
 So,Wesley **2769**
 Chess 9LX 2023 (2.3) 08.09.2023

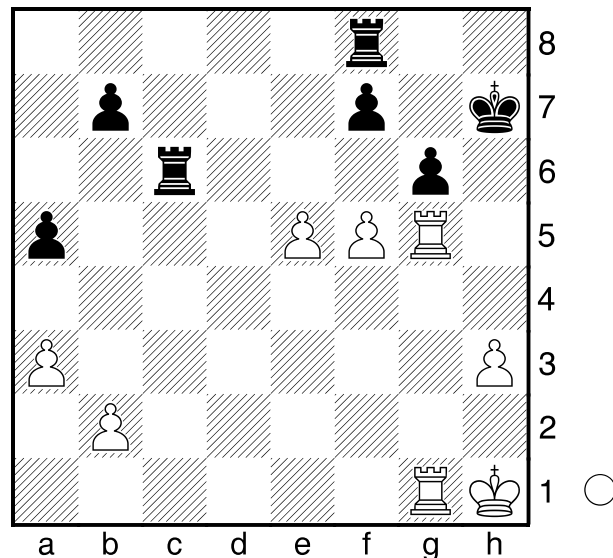


White is ripped apart at Fischer Random.
 1.c4 c5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.0-0 Ne6 4.b3 b5
 5.cxb5 Nf4 6.Nc3 Be5 7.Kh1 d6 8.a4
 Nxe2 9.Rd1 Nf4 10.Rg1 Nxc2
 11.Kxc2 Bd7 12.Bd3 Bg4 13.Be2 Nh5
0-1

Alexander Grischuk **D36**
 Dommaraju Gukesh **2732**
 Tata Steel India Blitz (12) 09.09.2023

A nice thematic game by the winner of the Tata Steel Blitz. 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Bg5 d5 4.e3 Be7 5.Nc3 0-0 6.Qc2 h6 7.Bh4 Nbd7 8.cxd5 exd5 9.Bd3 c6 10.Nf3 Re8 11.0-0 Ne4 12.Bxe4 Bxh4 13.Bh7+ Kh8 14.Bd3 Be7 15.Rae1 Nf6 16.Ne5 Kg8 17.a3 Bd6 18.f4 a5 19.h3 c5 20.Qf2 Be6 21.g4 Rf8 22.Kh1 Rc8 23.Rg1 cxd4 24.exd4 Ne4 25.Nxe4 dxe4 26.Bxe4 Bxe5 27.dxe5 Bd5 28.Qg2 Bxe4 29.Qxe4 Qb6 30.g5 hxc5 31.Rxc5 Qc6 32.Qxc6 Rxc6

33.Reg1 g6 34.f5 Kh7

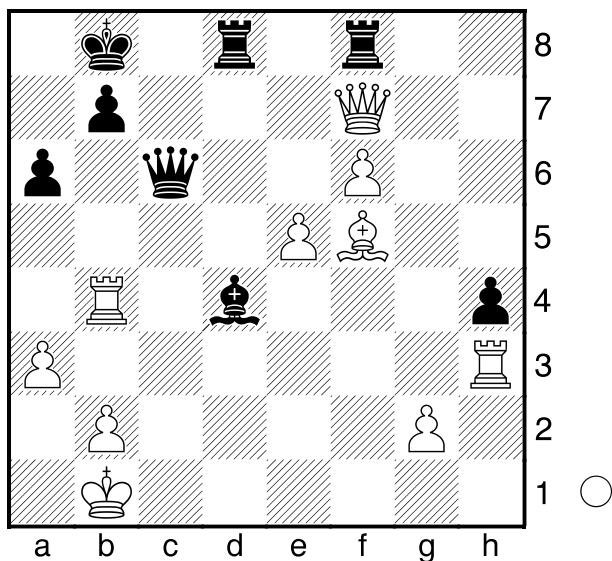


35.e6! fxe6 36.fxc6+ Kg7 37.Rh5 Rh8
 38.Rxh8 Kxh8 39.Kh2 Kg7 40.h4 Rc5
 41.Kh3 b5 42.Rg5 Rxc5 43.hxc5 Kxc6
 44.Kg4 e5 45.b3 a4 46.b4 e4 47.Kf4
 e3 48.Kxe3
1-0

Lee,Alice **D38**
 Khotenashvili,Bella **2388**
 FIDE-WWTC-KO 2023 (2.1) 10.09.2023

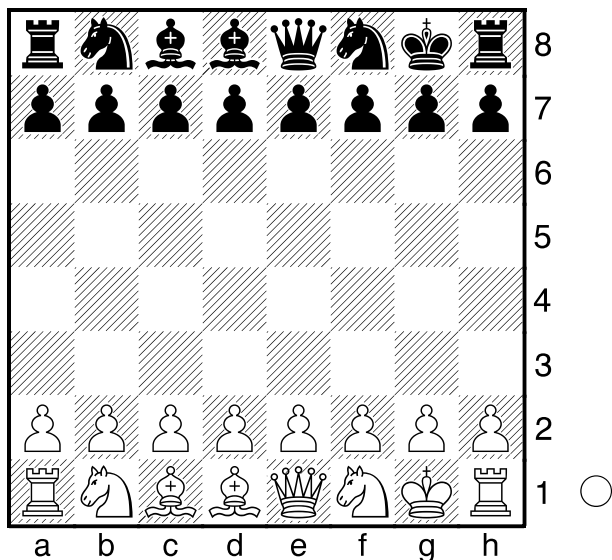
The newly-minted American International Master walks a tightrope to bring home the point. 1.Nf3 d5 2.d4 Nf6 3.c4 e6 4.Nc3 Nbd7 5.cxd5 exd5 6.Qc2 Bb4 7.Bg5 h6 8.Bh4 g5 9.Bg3 Ne4 10.Nd2 Nxc3 11.hxc3 Nb6 12.a3 Be7 13.0-0-0 Be6 14.e4 c6 15.e5 Qd7 16.Bd3 0-0-0 17.f4 gxf4 18.gxf4 Bg4 19.Rde1 Kb8 20.Nb3 h5 21.Nd1 Bxd1 22.Qxd1 h4 23.f5 Rdc8 24.Qf3 Na4 25.f6 Bf8 26.Bf5 Qd8 27.Rh3 a6 28.Kb1 c5 29.dxc5 Nxc5 30.Nxc5 Bxc5 31.Rc1 Qb6 32.Qxd5 Be3 33.Rc3 Rd8 34.Qxf7 Bd4 35.Rb3 Qc6 36.Rb4 Rhf8

(Diagram)



37.Rxd4! Rxf7 38.Rxd8+ Ka7 39.e6
Qc7 40.exf7 Qxd8 41.Bc2 Qf8 42.Bb3
Qd6 43.Ka2 a5 44.Rd3 Qf8 45.a4 b5
46.Rd7+ Kb6 47.Re7 bxa4 48.Be6 h3
49.gxh3 Qh6 50.Re8 a3 51.f8Q
1-0

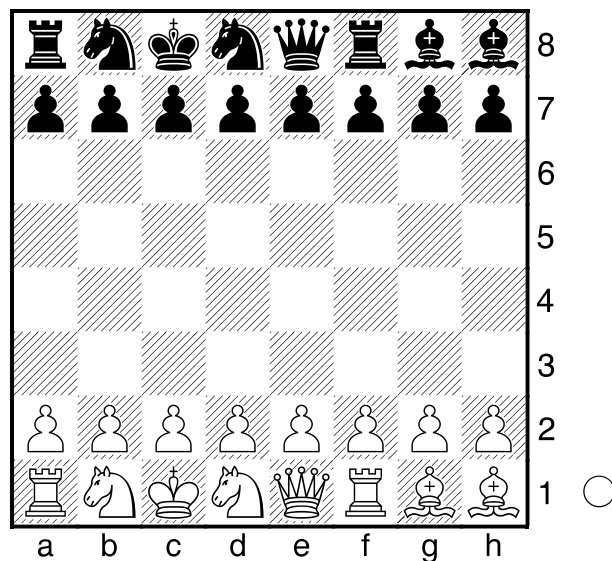
Shankland, Sam **2685**
 Kasparov, Garry **2552**
 Chess 9LX 2023 (8.3) 10.09.2023



Kasparov gets destroyed by the U.S.

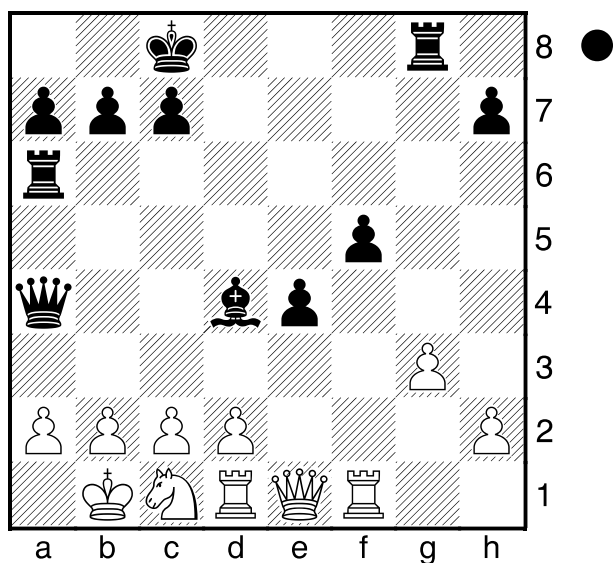
superstar. 1.d4 d6 2.e4 e5 3.dxe5
dxe5 4.Ne3 Ne6 5.0-0 0-0 6.a4 Bg5
7.Nd2 Nd7 8.a5 Nf6 9.b3 Qd8
10.Nec4 Re8 11.Bb2 Nd4 12.Nxe5
Nxc2 13.Bxc2 Bxd2 14.Qe2 Bf4
15.Rad1 Qe7 16.Nd3 Bxh2+ 17.Kxh2
Ng4+ 18.Kg3 h5 19.Rh1 Qg5 20.f4
Qg6 21.f5 Bxf5 22.Nf4
1-0

Caruana, Fabiano **2789**
 Sevian, Samuel **2698**
 Chess 9LX 2023 (9.1) 10.09.2023



A pretty mating attack by the winner of
the Fischer Random Champions
Showdown in St. Louis. 1.f4 f5 2.g3 g6
3.Nbc3 Nbc6 4.e4 d6 5.Nf2 Ne6
6.exf5 gxf5 7.Bd5 Ned4 8.Bxg8 Rxg8
9.Nd3 e5 10.fxe5 dxe5 11.Bxd4 Nxd4
12.Ne2 e4 13.Nxd4 Bxd4 14.Nf4 0-0-0
15.0-0-0 Qa4 16.Kb1 Rd6 17.Ne2 Ra6
18.Nc1

(Diagram)

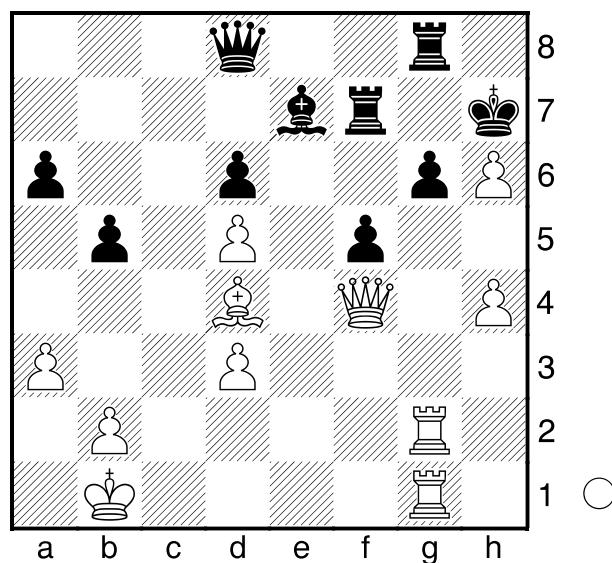


Bxb2! 19.Kxb2 Rgg6 20.Rxf5 Qa3+
21.Ka1 Rgb6 22.Rf8+ Kd7 23.Rf7+
Kc8 24.Rf8+ Qxf8 25.Qxe4 Qg7+
26.d4 Re6 27.Qd3 Qg6 28.Qd2 Qh6
29.Qf2 Rf6 30.Qg2 Qe3 31.Qh3+ Kb8
32.Qxh7 Qc3+ 33.Kb1 Rab6+ 34.Nb3
a5 35.Qg8+ Ka7 36.a4 Rfc6 37.Rc1
Rc4
0-1

Duda,Jan-Krzysztof **B96**
Shankland,Sam **2726**
2698
 Armageddon Grand Final 2023 14.09.23

White crashes through on the kingside.
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4
Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4 h6 8.Bh4
Qb6 9.a3 Be7 10.Bf2 Qc7 11.Qf3 Nc6
12.0-0-0 0-0 13.g4 Nxd4 14.Rxd4 b5
15.Rg1 e5 16.Rd2 exf4 17.h4 Be6
18.g5 Nd7 19.gxh6 g6 20.Qxf4 Kh7
21.Bd4 Ne5 22.Nd5 Bxd5 23.exd5 f5
24.Kb1 Rf7 25.Rdg2 Rg8 26.Bd3
Nxd3 27.cxd3 Qd8

(Diagram)

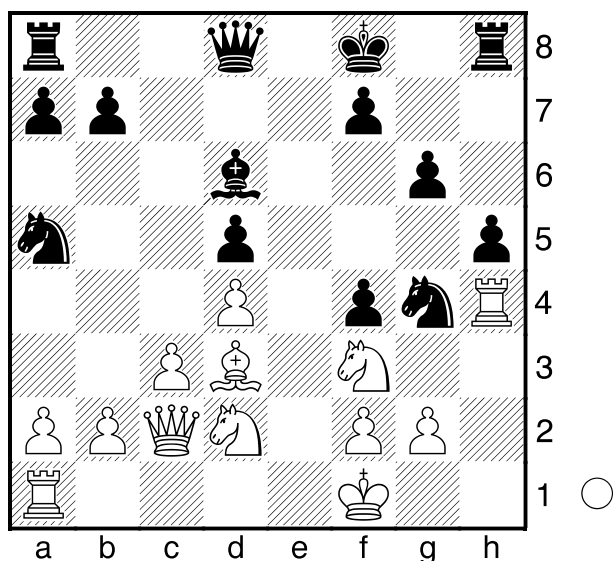


28.Bg7! Rfxg7 29.hxg7 Rxg7 30.Rxg6
Rxg6 31.Qxf5
1-0

So,Wesley **B13**
Rapport,Richard **2753**
2752
 Armageddon Grand Final 2023 19.09.23

White's king-rook performs miracles in a beautiful attack. 1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5
3.exd5 cxd5 4.Bd3 Nc6 5.c3 Nf6
6.Bf4 Bg4 7.Qb3 e5 8.h3 Na5 9.Qc2
exf4 10.hxg4 Nxg4 11.Nd2 g6 12.Kf1
Bd6 13.Ngf3 Kf8 14.Rh4 h5

(Diagram)

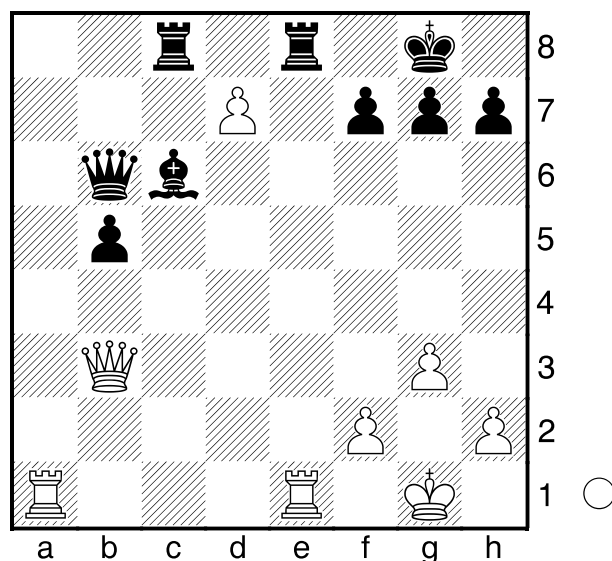


15.Bxg6! fxc6 16.Qxg6 Rh6 17.Qf5+
Nf6 18.Ne5 Qc7 19.Rxf4 Kg8 20.Qe6+
Kg7 21.Rf5 Re8 22.Rg5+ Kf8 23.Nd7+
Qxd7 24.Rg8+ Nxc8 25.Qxd7 Rf6
26.Nf3 Rf7 27.Qxd6+
1-0

☐ **Chigaev,Maksim** **A13**
☒ **Moussard,Jules** **2615**
 ESP-chT Honor Division 2023 (4.9) **2656**

A brilliant move winds up the game. 1.c4
Nf6 2.g3 e6 3.Bg2 d5 4.Nf3 dxc4
5.Qa4+ Nbd7 6.Qxc4 a6 7.Qc2 c5
8.Nc3 Qc7 9.d4 b5 10.Bf4 Qb6
11.Ne5 Bb7 12.Nxd7 Nxd7 13.d5 Nf6
14.e4 c4 15.0-0 Bc5 16.b3 cxb3
17.Qxb3 0-0 18.a4 exd5 19.Nxd5
Nxd5 20.exd5 Rac8 21.axb5 axb5
22.Be3 Rfe8 23.Bxc5 Rxc5 24.Rfe1
Rcc8 25.d6 Bxg2 26.d7 Bc6

(Diagram)

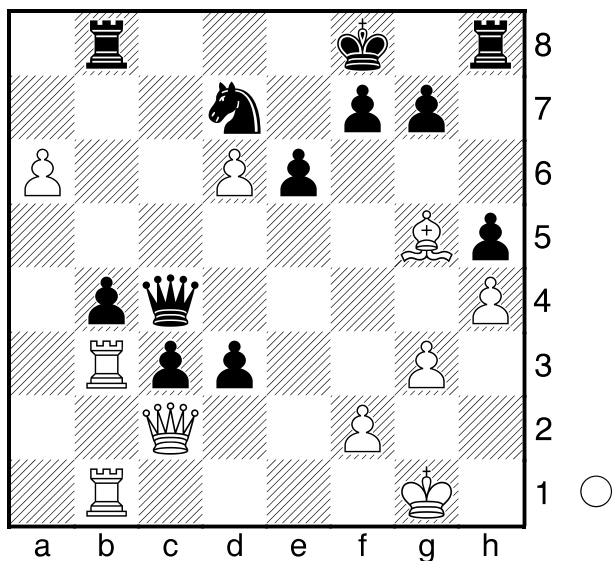


27.Re7!!
1-0

☐ **Shevchenko,Kirill** **E04**
☒ **Shirov,Alexei** **2677**
 ESP-chT Honor Division 2023 (5.8) **2665**

Black's three connected passed pawns
are not enough. 1.Nf3 d5 2.d4 Nf6
3.c4 c6 4.Nc3 e6 5.g3 dxc4 6.Bg2
b5 7.0-0 Bb7 8.Ne5 a6 9.b3 b4
10.Na4 c3 11.Nc4 a5 12.e4 Be7
13.e5 Nd5 14.Qg4 Kf8 15.h4 h5
16.Qf3 Ba6 17.Re1 Nd7 18.Nd6 Bxd6
19.exd6 Qf6 20.Qd1 Bb5 21.a3 Bxa4
22.bxa4 Qd8 23.Bxd5 cxd5 24.Rb1
Rb8 25.axb4 axb4 26.Bg5 Qc8
27.Qc2 Qc4 28.Rb3 Qxd4 29.Reb1
Qc4 30.a5 d4 31.a6 d3?
[31...f6! 32.a7 Kf7! 33.axb8Q
Rxb8-+]

(Diagram)



**32.Qxc3! Qxc3 33.Rxc3 f6 34.Rc7
fxg5 35.a7 Ra8 36.Rxd7 gxe4
37.Rxb4 Kg8 38.gxe4
1-0**

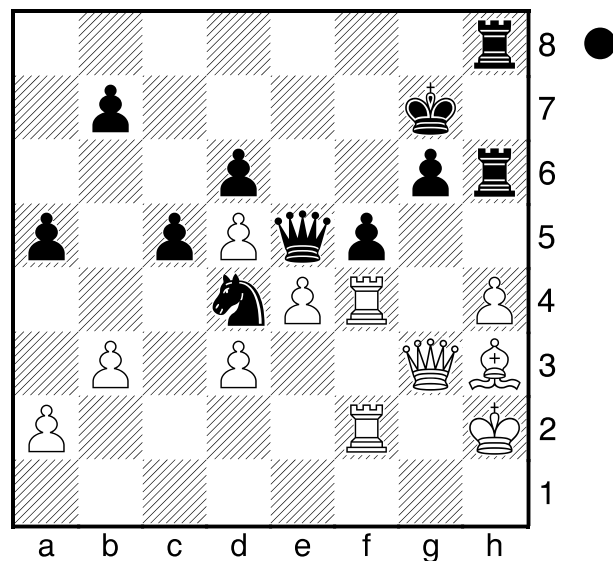
□ **Kramnik,Vladimir**
■ **Dubov,Daniil**

A26
2753
2716

Levitov Chess Week 2023 (1.1) 22.09.23

A small combination leads to a winning endgame. 1.c4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 0-0 5.0-0 d6 6.Nc3 Nc6 7.Rb1 a5 8.b3 e5 9.d3 h6 10.Bb2 Be6 11.e4 Nh7 12.Nd5 Ng5 13.Nxg5 hxe5 14.f4 gxf4 15.gxf4 exf4 16.Bxg7 Kxg7 17.Rxf4 Rh8 18.Qd2 Nd4 19.Qf2 c5 20.Rf1 Qg5 21.h4 Qe5 22.Qe3 Bxd5 23.cxd5 f5 24.R1f2 Rh6 25.Qg3 Rf8 26.Kh2 Rfh8 27.Bh3

(Diagram)



**Rxh4! 28.Rxh4 Rxh4 29.exf5 Nxf5
30.Qxe5+ dxe5 31.Re2 Kf6 32.Kg2
Rd4 33.Kf2 Rxd3 34.Bg2 b6 35.Be4
Rd4 36.Bg2 Ne7 37.Ke1 Nxd5
38.Rf2+ Nf4 39.Bf1 g5 40.Rh2 Kg7
41.Bc4 e4 42.Rc2 e3 43.Rc3 e2
44.Re3
0-1**

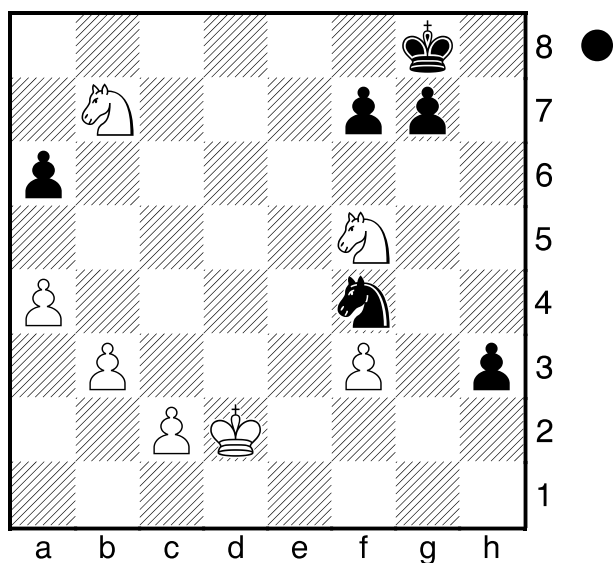
□ **So,Wesley**
■ **Svidler,Peter**

B51
2769
2688

Levitov Chess Week 2023 (2.2) 22.09.23

A thematic game with a nice shot at the end. 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Bb5+ Nd7 4.a4 Ngf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Be2 b6 7.d4 cxd4 8.Qxd4 Bb7 9.0-0 e6 10.Rd1 Be7 11.Be3 0-0 12.Nd2 Rc8 13.Nc4 d5 14.exd5 exd5 15.Nd2 Bc5 16.Qf4 Re8 17.Bxc5 bxc5 18.Bf3 Ne5 19.Re1 Nxf3+ 20.Nxf3 d4 21.Ne2 Qb6 22.b3 Nd5 23.Qd2 Qf6 24.Ng3 Nf4 25.Rxe8+ Rxe8 26.Re1 Rxe1+ 27.Nxe1 Qe5 28.f3 h5 29.Kf2 h4 30.Ne2 Nd5 31.Nd3 Qxh2 32.Nxc5 Ne3 33.Nxd4 Nxg2 34.Nxb7 Nf4+ 35.Ke3 Qxd2+ 36.Kxd2 h3 37.Nf5

(Diagram)



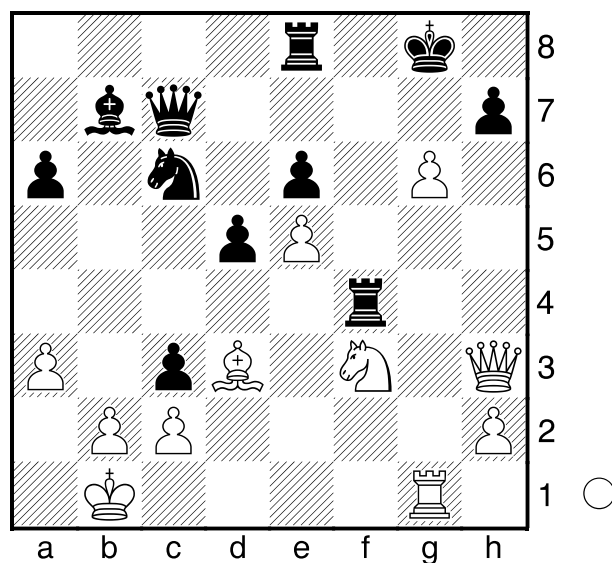
Nh5!
0-1

Anand,Viswanathan **C11**

So,Wesley **2754**
 Levitov Chess Week 2023 (3.5) 22.09.23 **2769**

A brilliant attacking game by the former World Champion. 1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Be7 8.Qd2 a6 9.dxc5 Nxc5 10.a3 0-0 11.Qf2 b6 12.0-0-0 Qc7 13.Bd3 Bb7 14.Qg3 f5 15.Kb1 b5 16.Bxc5 Bxc5 17.Qh3 g6 18.g4 b4 19.gxf5! bxc3 20.fxg6 Rae8 21.Rhg1 Bxg1 22.Rxg1 Rxf4

(Diagram)



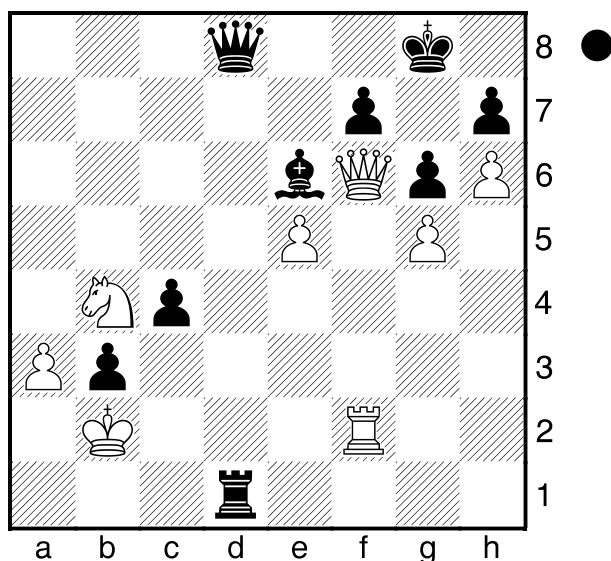
23.Qxe6+!! Kf8 24.gxh7
1-0

Grischuk,Alexander **B99**

Aronian,Levon **2736**
 Levitov Chess Week 2023 (4.4) 22.09.23 **2742**

Opposite-sides attacks end in a mate on the board. 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4 Be7 8.Qf3 Qc7 9.0-0-0 Nbd7 10.g4 b5 11.Bxf6 Nxf6 12.g5 Nd7 13.f5 0-0 14.Rg1 b4 15.Nce2 e5 16.f6 exd4 17.fxe7 Re8 18.Nxd4 Ne5 19.Qg3 Bb7 20.Bg2 Rxe7 21.h4 Qc5 22.h5 a5 23.h6 g6 24.Nb3 Qc8 25.Qf4 a4 26.Qf6 Qf8 27.Nd4 Ra6 28.Bf1 Rb6 29.Bd3 b3 30.a3 bxc2 31.Bxc2 Rc7 32.Kb1 Nc4 33.Ka1 d5 34.Qf4 Rxb2 35.Rg3 Re7 36.Bd3 Rb6 37.Bxc4 dxc4 38.e5 Rd7 39.Rf1 Rb3 40.Nc2 Bd5 41.Nb4 Be6 42.Rxb3 axb3 43.Kb2 Qd8 44.Rf2 Rd1 45.Qf6

(Diagram)

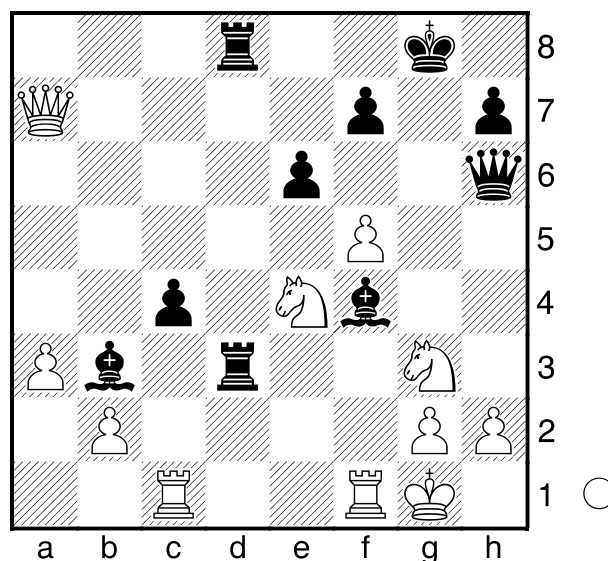


Qd4#
0-1

Grischuk,Alexander **E42**
2736
 Nepomniachtchi,Ian **2779**
 Levitov Chess Week 2023 (9.2) 23.09.23

The two bishops are triumphant. 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 c5 5.Nge2 d5 6.a3 Ba5 7.dxc5 dxc4 8.Bd2 0-0 9.Ng3 b6 10.Bxc4 bxc5 11.0-0 Nbd7 12.Qc2 Bb7 13.Rfd1 Qe7 14.Be2 Bc7 15.Nb5 Bb8 16.Ba5 Ne5 17.Rac1 Rc8 18.Qd2 Bd5 19.Nc3 Bb3 20.Bd8 Qf8 21.Bxf6 gxf6 22.Rf1 Rd8 23.Qe1 f5 24.f4 Nd3 25.Bxd3 Rxd3 26.e4 Qh6 27.Qf2 Bc7 28.exf5 Rad8 29.Nce4 c4 30.Qxa7 Bxf4

(Diagram)

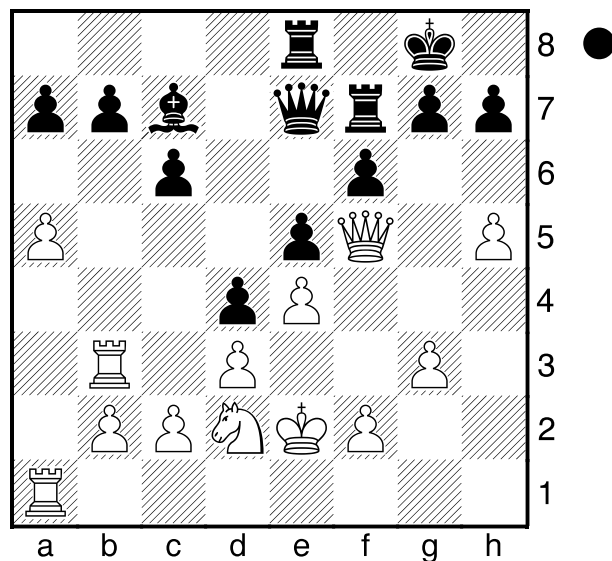
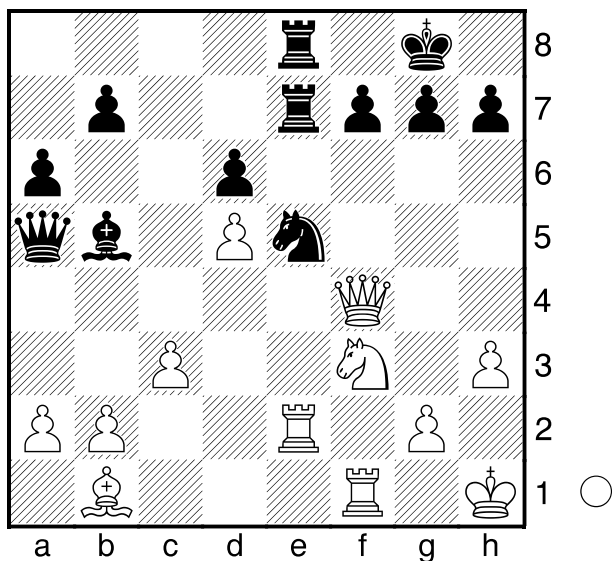


31.Nf6+ Kh8 32.Ng4 Qg5 33.Qxf7 Bxc1 34.fxe6 c3 35.Nf5 Rd1 36.h4 Rxf1+
0-1

Aronian,Levon **B90**
2742
 Svidler,Peter **2688**
 Levitov Chess Week 2023 (9.5) 23.09.23

White speculates with the Greek gift sacrifice - and loses. 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bd3 e5 7.Nde2 Be7 8.0-0 0-0 9.Ng3 Bg4 10.Be2 Be6 11.Nd5 Nxd5 12.exd5 Bc8 13.f4 Nd7 14.Nf5 Bf6 15.c3 exf4 16.Bxf4 Ne5 17.Nd4 Re8 18.Kh1 Bg5 19.Qd2 Bxf4 20.Qxf4 Bd7 21.Rad1 Qb6 22.Rd2 Re7 23.h3 Rae8 24.Bd3 Qc5 25.Nb3 Qc7 26.Nd4 Qa5 27.Bb1 Nc4 28.Re2 Ne5 29.Nf3 Bb5

(Diagram)



30.Bxh7+?

[30.c4! Bxc4 31.Rxe5 Bxf1
32.Bxh7+ Kf8 33.Nh4 Bd3 34.Rxe7
Kxe7 35.Bxd3±]

**30...Kxh7 31.Ng5+ Kg8 32.Rxe5 Bxf1
33.Qf5 g6 34.Qf4 dxe5 35.Qh4
Bxg2+ 36.Kh2 f6
0-1**

□ **Stockfish**
■ **Lc0**

CCC21 Rapid: Semifinals (10|3) (1)

Stockfish misplaces a rook on move 25...
and ends up losing it 68 moves later.

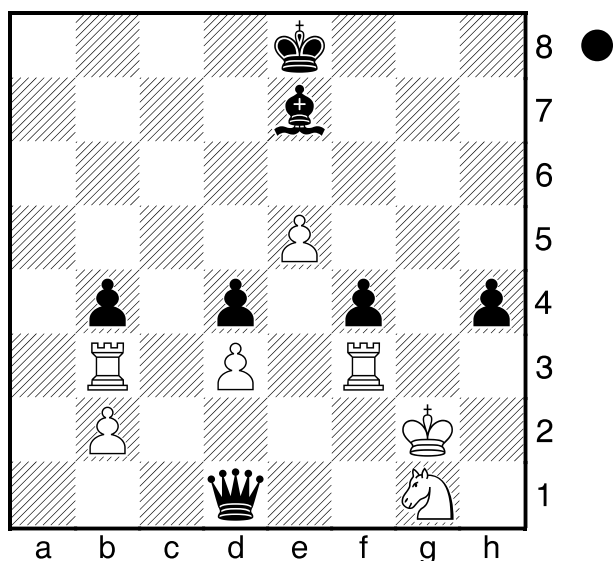
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.Bxc6
dxc6 5.d3 Bg4 6.h3 Bxf3 7.Qxf3 e5
8.Nd2 Nd7 9.a4 Bd6 10.Qg3 Qf6
11.Nc4 Bc7 12.h4 Qg6 13.Qh3 Nf8
14.h5 Qf6 15.Qf5 Qe7 16.Be3 f6
17.a5 Ne6 18.g3 0-0 19.Ke2 Nd4+
20.Bxd4 cxd4 21.Ra4 Rf7 22.Nd2 Qc5
23.Rha1 Re8 24.R4a3 Qe7 25.Rb3?

(Diagram)

B30

Bd6 26.Nf3 Bc5 27.Qg4 b6 28.axb6
axb6 29.Nh4 Qf8 30.Nf5 Kh8 31.Qh3
Rb8 32.Nh4 Qe8 33.Qf5 Kg8 34.c3
Re7 35.Nf3 Qf7 36.Nd2 Rd8 37.Qg4
b5 38.c4 Rb8 39.cxb5 cxb5 40.Ra6
b4 41.Nc4 Ra7 42.Rc6 Rc7 43.Ra6
Kh8 44.Kf1 h6 45.Kg2 Qe8 46.Qg6
Qb5 47.Ra1 Bf8 48.Qg4 Qc6 49.Qd1
Ra8 50.Rb1 Re8 51.Qf3 f5 52.Re1
Qa4 53.Qd1 f4 54.g4 f3+ 55.Kxf3 Re6
56.Kg2 Kh7 57.Nd2 Be7 58.Qa1 Qd7
59.Nc4 Ra7 60.Qd1 Ra8 61.Rf1 Rf8
62.f3 Qa4 63.Qc2 Bg5 64.Rc3 Qb5
65.Rb3 Ra6 66.Rh1 Rf7 67.Rb1 Qb8
68.Qe2 Kg8 69.Qe1 Be7 70.Rc1 Raf6
71.Nd2 Rf4 72.Qd1 Qd6 73.Qe2 Qe6
74.Kg1 g6 75.hxg6 Qxg6 76.Qg2 Qg5
77.Ra1 R4f6 78.Kh1 Rg7 79.Rg1 h5
80.Qh2 Rfg6 81.f4 exf4 82.Nf3 Qc5
83.g5 Bxg5 84.Qg2 Be7 85.Qxg6
Rxg6 86.Rxg6+ Kf8 87.Rg2 Qc1+
88.Rg1 Qe3 89.Rf1 h4 90.Ng1 Ke8
91.Rf3 Qc1 92.e5 Qd1 93.Kg2

(Diagram)

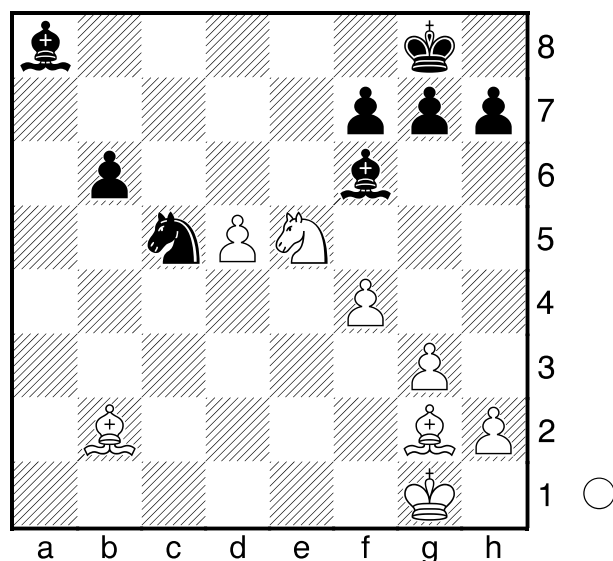


Qxb3 94.Ne2 Qxb2 95.Rf2 b3 96.e6
h3+ 97.Kf3 Qd2 98.Rh2 b2 99.Rh1
Qxd3+ 100.Kxf4 Qxe2 101.Rb1 h2
102.Rh1 b1Q 103.Rxb1 h1Q 104.Rxh1
Qxe6 105.Rh8+ Kf7 106.Kf3 d3
107.Rh2 Bg5 108.Rf2 d2 109.Rf1
Qf5+ 110.Kg2 Qxf1+ 111.Kxf1 d1Q+
112.Kg2 Qe2+ 113.Kh3 Bf4 114.Kh4
Qg2 115.Kh5 Qg5#
0-1

Carlsen,Magnus **A30**
 Nakamura,Hikaru **2839**
 AI Cup Div-1 2023 (1.1) 25.09.2023

A classic Carlsen endgame grind. 1.Nf3
Nf6 2.c4 b6 3.g3 Bb7 4.Bg2 e6 5.0-0
Be7 6.Nc3 0-0 7.Re1 d5 8.cxd5 Nxd5
9.e4 Nxc3 10.bxc3 c5 11.d4 cxd4
12.cxd4 Nc6 13.Bb2 Na5 14.Rc1 Rc8
15.Qd3 Qd7 16.d5 Rxc1 17.Rxc1
exd5 18.Ne5 Qa4 19.exd5 Qxa2
20.Qc3 Bf6 21.Ra1 Qb3 22.Qxb3
Nxb3 23.Rxa7 Nc5 24.f4 Ra8
25.Rxa8+ Bxa8

(Diagram)

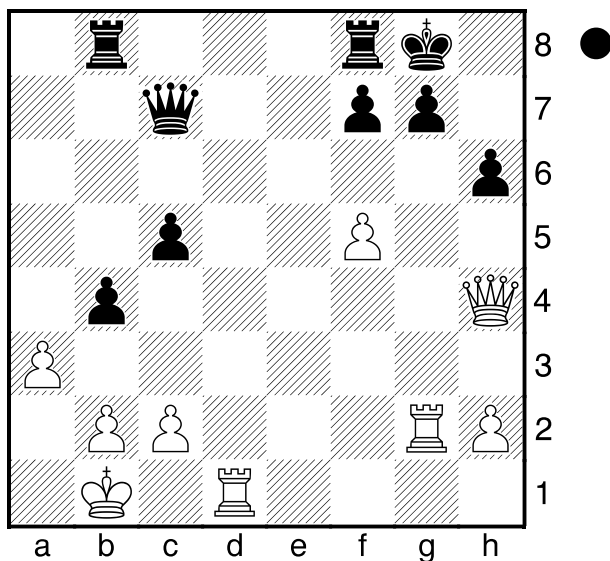


26.Kf2 Kf8 27.Ke3 Ke8 28.Ba3 Be7
29.Nc4 b5 30.Ne5 Bb7 31.Nc6 Bxc6
32.dxc6 Na6 33.Bb2 f6 34.Ke4 Bd6
35.h4 Ke7 36.h5 g6 37.h6 Ke6 38.Bf1
Nc7 39.g4 f5+ 40.Kf3 Bf8 41.Bd3 Bd6
42.gxf5+ gxf5 43.Bb1 Bf8 44.Be5 Bd6
45.Bxd6 Kxd6 46.Bxf5
1-0

Firouzja,Ali **B97**
 Vachier Lagrave,Maxime **2777**
 AI Cup Div-1 2023 (1.3) 25.09.2023

Another opposite-sides attacking game,
with black getting in the last shot. 1.e4
c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6
5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4 Qb6 8.Nb3
Nbd7 9.Qe2 Qc7 10.0-0-0 b5 11.a3
Be7 12.Kb1 Rb8 13.Qe1 Bb7 14.Bd3
h6 15.Bh4 Nc5 16.f5 exf5 17.Nxc5
dxc5 18.exf5 0-0 19.Bxb5 Bxg2
20.Rg1 axb5 21.Rxg2 b4 22.Ne4
Nxe4 23.Qxe4 Bxh4 24.Qxh4

(Diagram)

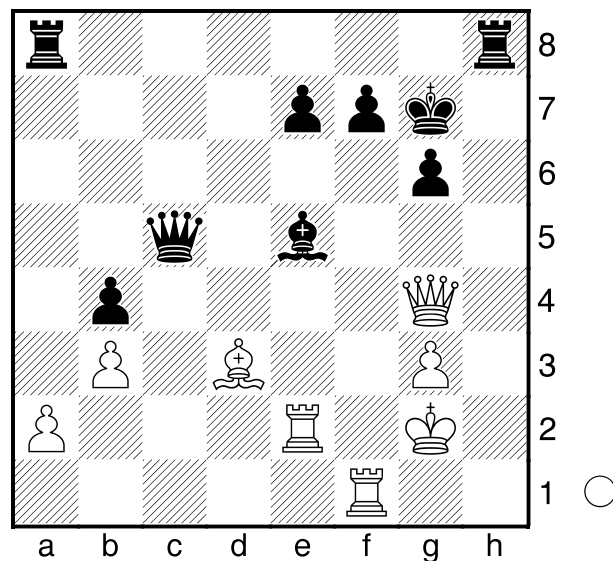


Kh7 25.f6 g6 26.Rd3 Qe5 27.Rh3 h5
28.Rg5 Qe2 29.Qf4 Qe1+ 30.Ka2
Qe6+ 31.Rb3 c4 32.Rbg3 b3+ 33.cxb3
cxb3+ 34.Kb1 Qe1+ 35.Qc1 Rfe8
36.Rc3 Qe4+ 37.Ka1 Rbc8 38.Rg1
Qd4 39.Rgg3 Rxc3 40.bxc3 Qf2
0-1

So, Wesley **B08**
 Aronian, Levon **2769**
2742
 Levitov Chess Week 2023 (10.4) 25.9.23

White destroys black's fortress in classic style. 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Qxd4 Nc6 5.Qd3 g6 6.Be2 Bg7 7.0-0 Nf6 8.Nc3 0-0 9.Nd5 Bg4 10.c3 Bxf3 11.Qxf3 Ne5 12.Nxf6+ Bxf6 13.Qg3 Qb6 14.h4 Qc6 15.f4 Nc4 16.Bd3 b5 17.Kh2 a5 18.Rb1 a4 19.h5 a3 20.b3 Nb2 21.Bxb2 axb2 22.Rxb2 Qxc3 23.Re2 Qc5 24.Qg4 b4 25.hxg6 hxg6 26.g3 Kg7 27.Kg2 Rh8 28.e5! dxe5 29.fxe5 Bxe5

(Diagram)

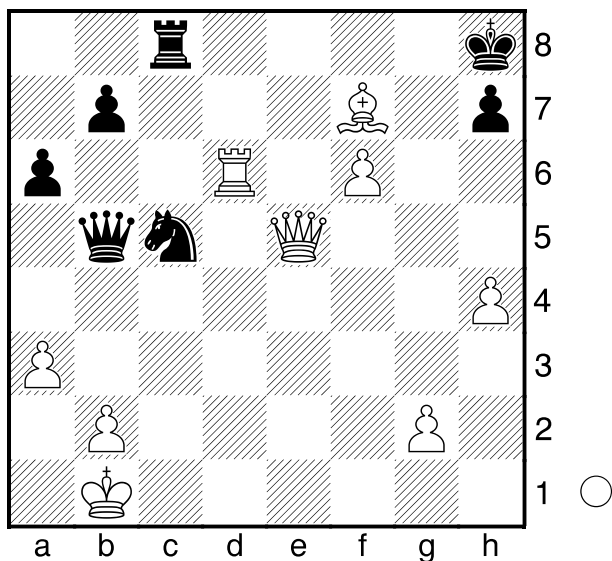


30.Rxf7+!! Kxf7 31.Qxg6+ Kf8 32.Bc4
e6 33.Qxe6 Ra7 34.Qf5+ Kg7
35.Qg5+ Kf8 36.Rxe5 Rxa2+ 37.Kf3
Qc6+ 38.Kg4 Qd7+ 39.Rf5+ Ke8
40.Bb5
1-0

Svidler, Peter **B90**
 So, Wesley **2688**
2769
 Levitov Chess Week 2023 (11.2) 25.9.23

Black should have castled queenside.
1.Nf3 c5 2.e4 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4
Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.a3!? e5 7.Nf5 d5
8.Bg5 d4 9.Bxf6 gxf6 10.Nb1 Bxf5
11.exf5 Qd5 12.Qd3 Nd7 13.Nd2 Qa5
14.0-0-0 Bh6 15.Kb1 Nc5 16.Qe2
Bxd2 17.Rxd2 Rd8 18.h4 Rd6 19.Rh3
Ne4 20.Rd1 Nc5 21.f4 Nd7 22.c3
Qb6 23.cxd4 Rxd4 24.Rhd3 Rxd3
25.Qxd3 Nc5 26.Qc3 0-0 27.fxe5 fxe5
28.Qg3+ Kh8 29.Qxe5+ Kg8 30.Rd6
Qa5 31.Bc4 Rc8 32.f6 Kh8 33.Bxf7
Qb5

(Diagram)

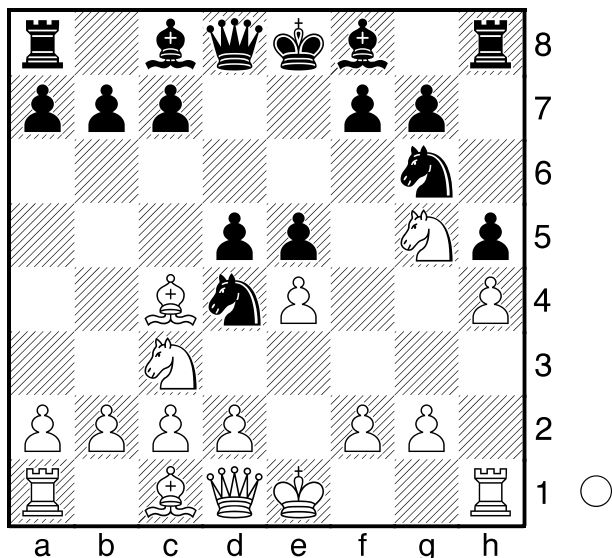


34.Bc4! Qxc4 35.f7#
1-0

Anand,Viswanathan **C60** **2754**

Mamedyarov,Shakhriyar **2747**
 Levitov Chess Week 2023 (11.5) 25.9.23

Black comes out on top after a wild opening. 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nge7 4.Nc3 Ng6 5.h4 Nd4 6.Bc4 h5 7.Ng5 d5!?



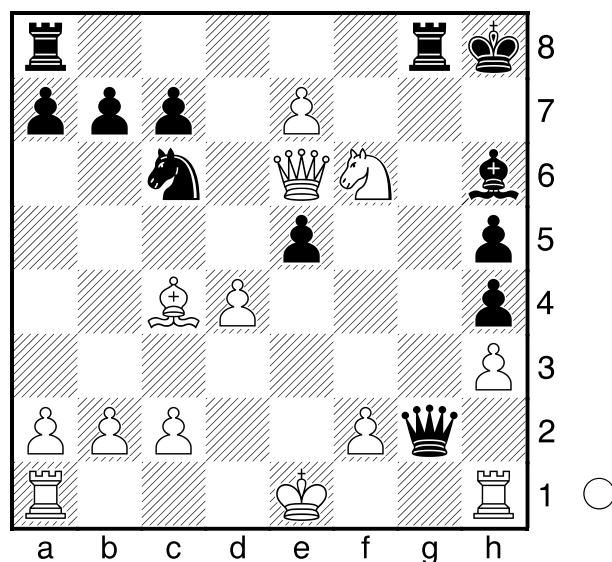
8.Bxd5 Bg4 9.Bxf7+ Kd7 10.f3 Nxh4

11.d3 Nxg2+ 12.Kf1 Nf4 13.Bxf4 exf4 14.Ne2 Nxe2 15.Qxe2 Qxg5 16.fxg4 Bc5 17.gxh5 Ke7 18.d4 Bxd4 19.Bb3 f3 20.Qh2 Bb6 21.Qh3 Rh6 22.Rd1 Rd8 23.c3 Rxd1+ 24.Bxd1 Qd2
0-1

Dubov,Daniil **D03** **2716**

Nepomniachtchi,Ian **2779**
 Levitov Chess Week 2023 (16.5) 26.9.23

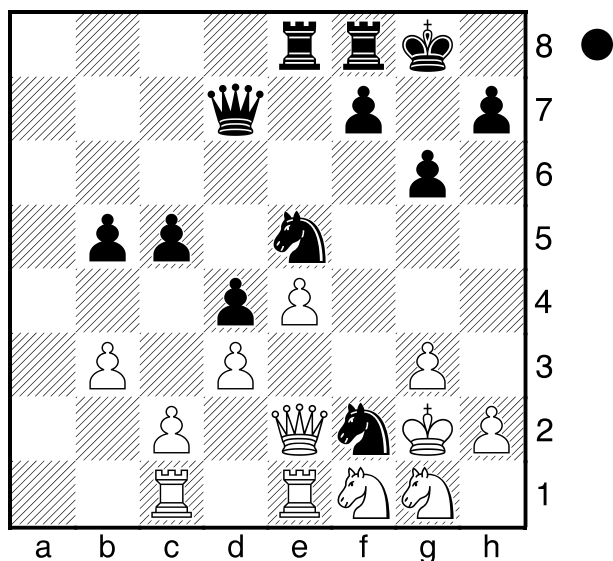
Black's hyper-aggressive opening backfires miserably. 1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 d5 3.Bg5 Ne4 4.Bh4 h5 5.h3 Rg8 6.Nbd2 g5 7.Nxe4 gxh4 8.Nc3 e6 9.e4 Bh6 10.Ne5 Qg5 11.exd5 Kf8 12.Bc4 f6 13.dxe6 fxe5 14.Qf3+ Kg7 15.Qf7+ Kh8 16.e7 Be6 17.Qxe6 Nc6 18.Ne4 Qg7 19.Nf6 Qxg2



20.Bd5 Qxh1+ 21.Bxh1 Rg1+ 22.Ke2 Nxd4+ 23.Kd3 Nxe6 24.Rxg1
1-0

Nakamura,Hikaru **A03**
 Giri,Anish **2780**
2760
 AI Cup Div-1 2023 (51.1) 26.09.2023

Black's knights trample through white's position. 1.b3 d5 2.Bb2 c5 3.e3 Nf6 4.f4 g6 5.Bb5+ Bd7 6.Bxd7+ Qxd7 7.Nf3 Bg7 8.Qe2 0-0 9.d3 Nc6 10.Nbd2 d4 11.e4 b5 12.0-0 Ng4 13.Rfe1 Bh6 14.g3 e5 15.fxe5 Rae8 16.a4 a6 17.axb5 axb5 18.Bc1 Be3+ 19.Kg2 Nf2 20.Ng1 Nxe5 21.Nf1 Bxc1 22.Raxc1

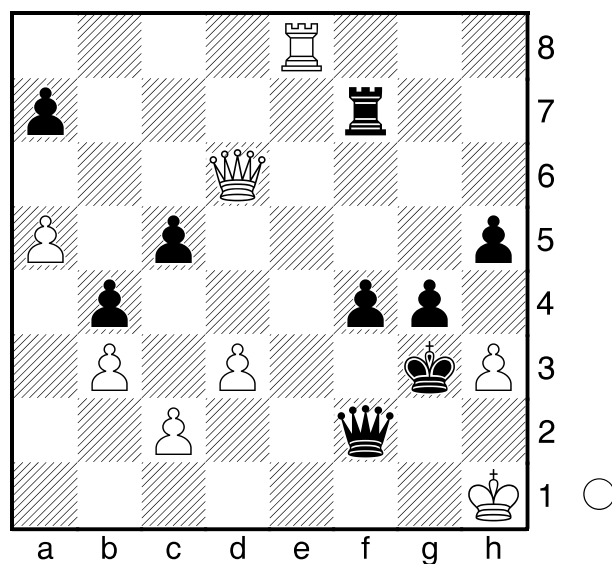


f5! 23.Qxf2 fxe4 24.Qd2 e3 25.Nxe3 Qc6+ 26.Kh3 dxe3 27.Rxe3 Qe6+ 28.Kg2 Qd5+ 29.Kh3 Ng4
0-1

Nepomniachtchi,Ian **B31**
 Vachier-Lagrave,Maxime **2771**
2727
 AI Cup Div-1 2023 (54.2) 28.09.2023

Black's king walks the plank but white can't push him into the water. 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 g6 4.0-0 Bg7 5.Re1 Nf6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.h3 Nd7 8.e5 Nf8 9.d3 Ne6 10.b3 0-0 11.a4 Nd4

12.Nbd2 Be6 13.Bb2 b6 14.a5 Qd7 15.Ra4 b5 16.Ra1 Bd5 17.Ba3 Ne6 18.Ne4 b4 19.Bb2 f5 20.exf6 exf6 21.Qd2 Rae8 22.Rad1 f5 23.Bxg7 Qxg7 24.Neg5 Nxc5 25.Nxc5 h6 26.Nf3 Bxf3 27.gxf3 g5 28.Re3 g4 29.Kh1 h5 30.Rde1 Qg5 31.Qe2 Rxe3 32.Qxe3 Qh4 33.Qe6+ Rf7 34.Qg6+ Kf8 35.Qd6+ Kg7 36.Re6 Qxf2 37.Rg6+ Kh7 38.Rh6+ Kg7 39.Qg6+ Kf8 40.Rh8+ Ke7 41.Qg5+ Kd6 42.Qd8+ Ke5 43.Re8+ Kf4 44.Qd6+ Kxf3 45.Qxc6+ Kg3 46.Qd6+ f4

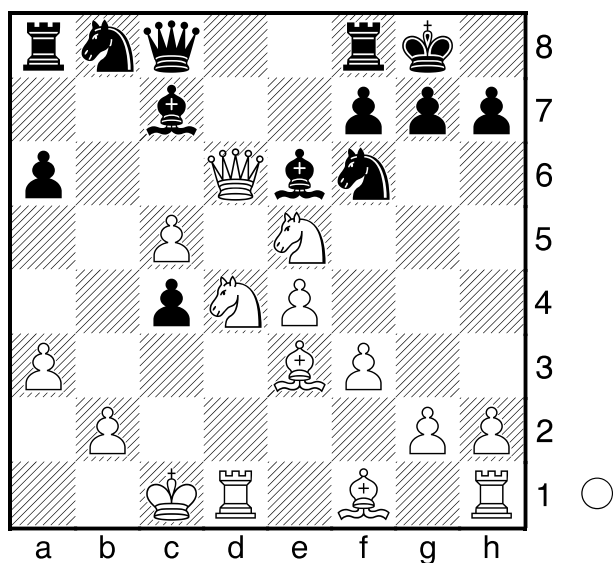


0-1

Carlsen,Magnus **D20**
 Vachier Lagrave,Maxime **2839**
2727
 AI Cup Div-1 2023 (5.1) 29.09.2023

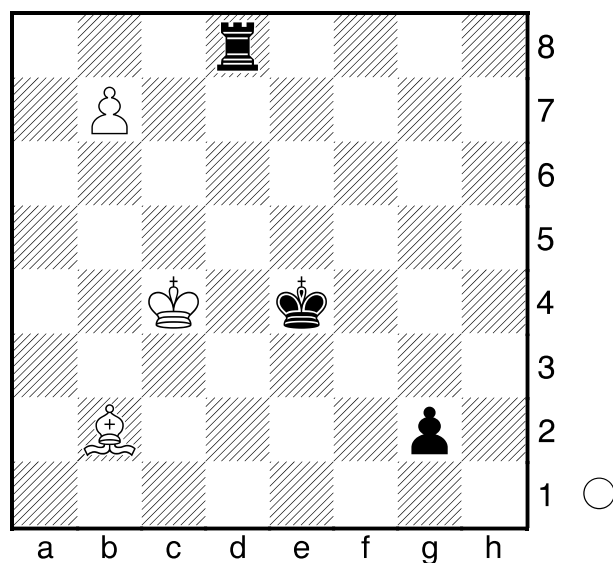
An incredible fight, and MVL wins the AI Cup Division One. 1.d4 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3.e4 e5 4.Nf3 Bb4+ 5.Nc3 Nf6 6.Nxe5 b5 7.f3 0-0 8.a3 Ba5 9.Be3 c5 10.dxc5 Qe8 11.Qd6 Be6 12.0-0-0 Qc8 13.Nxb5 a6 14.Nd4 Bc7

(Diagram)



15.Nxe6 Bxd6 16.Rxd6 fxe6 17.Bxc4
Re8 18.c6 Re7 19.Bb6 Nbd7 20.cxd7
Nxd7 21.Nc6 Re8 22.Be3 Qc7
23.Rhd1 Nf8 24.Kb1 Kh8 25.h4 h6
26.g4 Qf7 27.Ne5 Qf6 28.Bd4 Qxh4
29.Bxe6 Qh2 30.Bd5 Kh7 31.g5 Rac8
32.Rc6 Rxc6 33.Nxc6 hxg5 34.Bf7
Rc8 35.Be5 Qg2 36.Nd4 g4 37.fxg4
Qxe4+ 38.Ka2 Rd8 39.Rf1 Qg2 40.Rf5
g6 41.Rf6 Qxg4 42.Nf3 Rd3 43.Bd5
Rxd5 44.Rf7+ Kh6 45.Bg7+ Kh5
46.Rxf8 Qc4+ 47.b3 Qe2+ 48.Bb2
Kg4 49.a4 Qxf3 50.Rxf3 Kxf3 51.b4
g5 52.Kb3 g4 53.Kc4 Ke4 54.b5
axb5+ 55.axb5 g3 56.b6 g2 57.b7
Rd8

(Diagram)

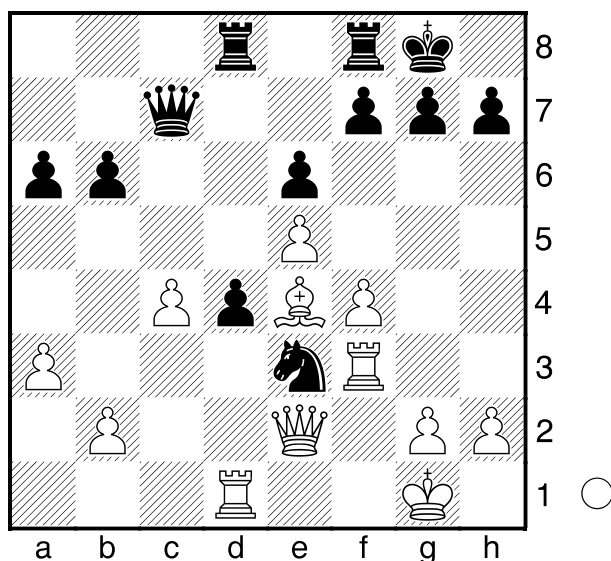


0-1

B41
 Vachier-Lagrave,Maxime **2727**
 Carlsen,Magnus **2839**
 Al Cup Div-1 2023 (5.2) 29.09.2023

White speculates with the Greek gift sacrifice - and wins. 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 a6 5.c4 Nf6 6.Nc3 Qc7 7.a3 b6 8.Bd3 Bb7 9.0-0 Bd6 10.f4 Bc5 11.Be3 Nc6 12.Nc2 d6 13.Qd2 0-0 14.Rae1 Ng4 15.Bxc5 dxc5 16.e5 Rad8 17.Qe2 Nh6 18.Rd1 Nd4 19.Nxd4 cxd4 20.Ne4 Nf5 21.Rf3 Bxe4 22.Bxe4 Ne3

(Diagram)

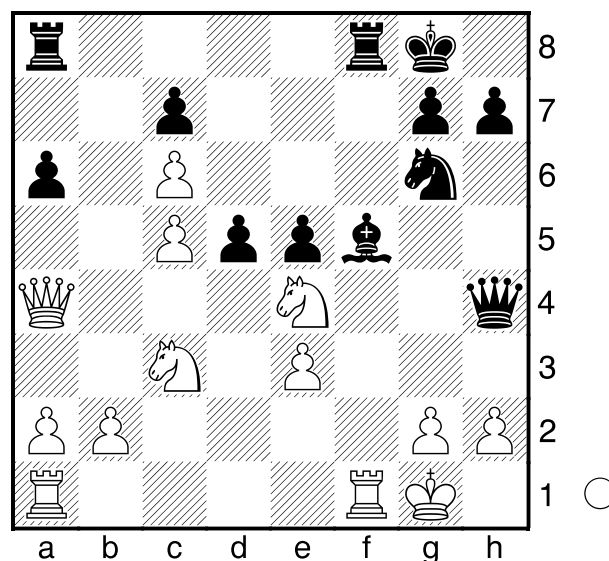


23.Bxh7+!? Kxh7 24.Rh3+ Kg8
25.Qh5 f5?
 [25...f6!-+ repulses the attack.]
26.Qh7+ Kf7 27.Rh6 Qxc4 28.Rf6+ Ke8 29.Qxg7
1-0

Maurizzi, Marc`Andria **C64**
 Schitco, Ivan **2555**
2533
 FIDE World Junior Open-ch 2023 (9.2)

White "hangs" both knights on the 6th rank in this great game by the winner of the Open World Junior Championship.
 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Bc5 5.0-0 Nge7 6.c3 Ng6 7.d4 Ba7 8.Bg5 f6 9.Be3 d6 10.d5 Bxe3 11.dxc6 b5 12.fxe3 bxa4 13.Qxa4 0-0 14.c4 f5 15.Nc3 fxe4 16.Nd2 Bf5 17.Ndxe4 Qh4 18.c5 d5

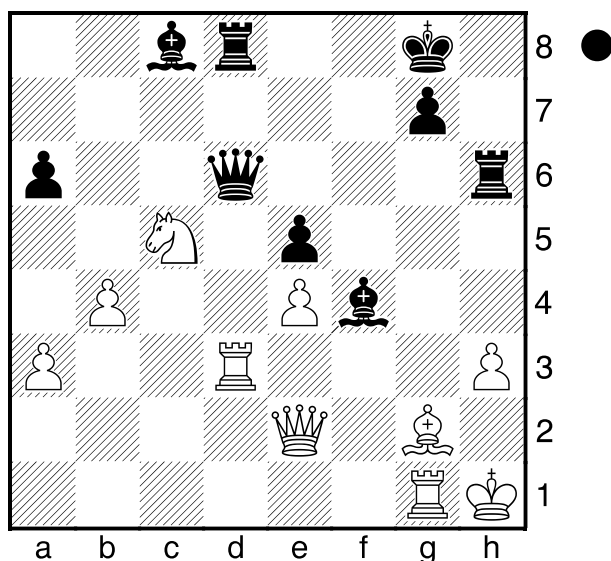
(Diagram)



19.Nd6! Qxa4 20.Nxa4 Bd3 21.Nb6! Bxf1 22.Nxa8 Rxa8 23.Rxf1 Rd8
24.b4 Ne7 25.Rf7 Nxc6 26.Rxc7 Nxb4 27.Rb7 a5 28.a3 Nd3 29.c6 Nc5
30.Rb6 Ne6 31.Nb5 Rc8 32.c7 Nxc7 33.Rc6 Nxb5 34.Rxc8+ Kf7 35.a4 Nd6
36.Rc5 Ke6 37.Rxa5
1-0

Krasteva, Beloslava **A31**
 Francisco Guecamburu, Candela Be **2223**
 FIDE World Junior Girls-ch 2023 (11.1)

A great attacking game by the winner of the Girls World Junior Championship.
 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.Nf3 cxd4 4.Nxd4 b6 5.Nc3 Bb7 6.f3 e6 7.e4 d6 8.Be2 a6 9.Be3 Nbd7 10.0-0 Be7 11.Rc1 0-0 12.a3 Qc7 13.b4 Rac8 14.Qb3 Rfe8 15.Rfd1 Qb8 16.Kh1 h5 17.Bf1 h4 18.Qa2 Ne5 19.Na4 Bd8 20.Bg5 h3 21.Bxf6 Bxf6 22.Nxb6 Rcd8 23.Na4 hxc2+ 24.Bxc2 Ng6 25.Qf2 Be5 26.h3 Qc7 27.Ne2 Nf4 28.Nxf4 Bxf4 29.Rc2 Rf8 30.Nb2 f5 31.Nd3 fxe4 32.fxe4 e5 33.Qe2 Bh6 34.Rg1 Bc8 35.c5 Rf6 36.cxd6 Qxd6 37.Nc5 Bf4 38.Rc3 Rh6 39.Rd3

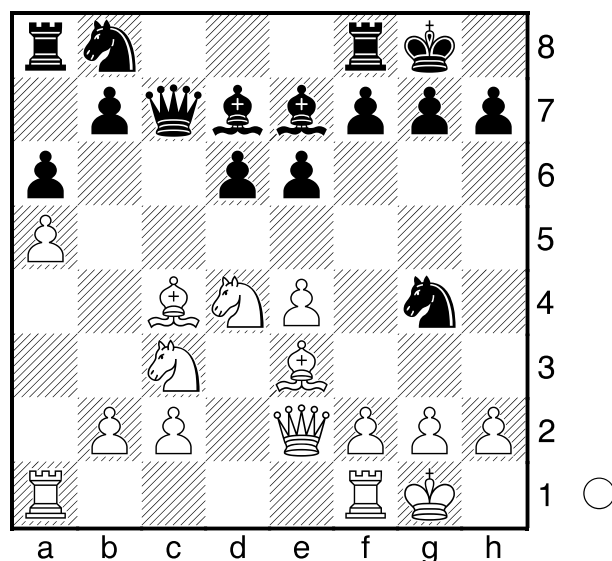


Qxd3!! 40.Nxd3 Bxh3 41.Bxh3 Rxh3+
42.Kg2 Rxd3 43.Qa2+ Kh8 44.Qb1
Rh2+ 45.Kf1 Rc3 46.a4 Rc1+ 47.Qxc1
Bxc1 48.Rg6 Rb2 49.Rb6 Bd2 50.b5
axb5 51.axb5 Be3 52.Rb8+ Kh7
53.Ke1 g5
0-1

B86
 Carlsen, Magnus **2835**
 Keymer, Vincent **2701**
 38th ECCC Open 2023 (5.7) 05.10.2023

Carlsen continues to pound the younger generation. 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bc4 e6 7.a4 Be7 8.0-0 0-0 9.Be3 Qc7 10.Qe2 Bd7 11.a5 Ng4

(Diagram)

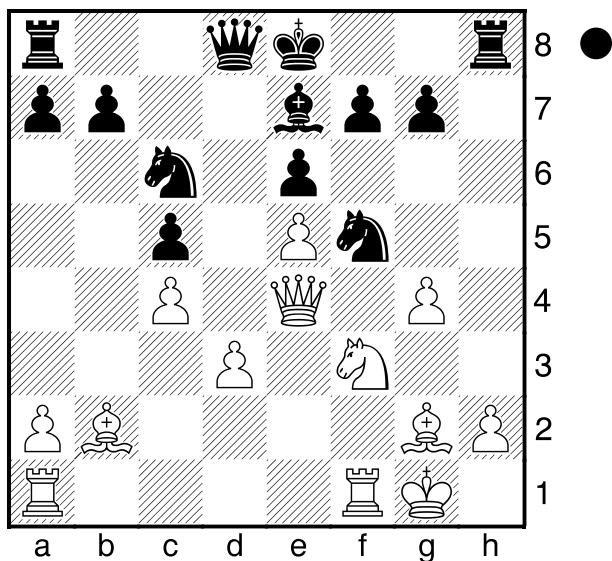


12.Nf5! Bf6 13.Bb6 Qc6 14.Nd4 Qc8
15.Bb3 Ne5 16.Rad1 Bd8 17.f4 Nec6
18.f5 Bxb6 19.axb6 Nxd4 20.Rxd4
Qc5 21.Qf2 exf5 22.exf5 Bc6 23.f6
Nd7 24.fxg7 Kxg7 25.Bd5 f5 26.Bxc6
Qxc6 27.Rfd1 Qxb6 28.Nd5 Qd8
29.Nf4
1-0

B40
 Niemann, Hans Moke **2667**
 Aronian, Levon **2742**
 USA Championship 2023 (5.1) 10.10.23

Aronian goes the wrong way with his knight, and the enfant terrible of the chess world picks up a major scalp. 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.c3 d5 4.e5 d4 5.d3 Ne7 6.g3 dxc3 7.bxc3 Bd7 8.Bg2 Bb5 9.c4 Bc6 10.0-0 Nf5 11.Bb2 Be7 12.Qe2 h5 13.Nbd2 h4 14.Ne4 hxg3 15.fxg3 Bxe4 16.Qxe4 Nc6 17.g4

(Diagram)



Nfd4?

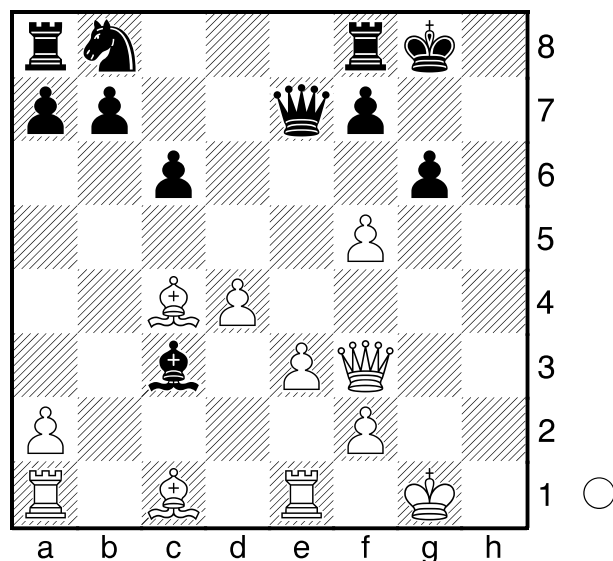
[17...Nh4!]

18.Bxd4 cxd4 19.Rab1± Qc7 20.g5 g6 21.h4 Bb4 22.Nh2 0-0-0 23.Rb3 Bd2 24.Rfb1 Be3+ 25.Kf1 b6 26.Qxc6 Qxc6 27.Bxc6 Rxh4 28.Nf3 Rg4 29.Re1 Rh8 30.Rxe3 dxe3 31.Ke2 Rh3 32.Be4 Rg2+ 33.Kxe3 Rxc3 34.Kf2 Rg4 35.Ra3 Kb8 36.Ra6 g5 37.Nd4 Rf4+ 38.Ke2 Rh2+ 39.Ke3 Rh3+ 40.Kd2 Rh2+ 41.Kc3 Rxe4 42.dxe4 g4 43.Kd3 Rf2 44.Ke3 Rf1 45.Ke2 Rf4 46.Ra3 Rxe4+ 47.Kd3 Re1 48.Ne2 Kb7 49.Kd2 Ra1 50.Nc1 Rb1 51.Rg3 Rb2+ 52.Kc3 Rf2 53.Rxc3 a5 54.a4 Rf1 55.Nd3 Ra1 56.Rf4 Ra3+ 57.Kd4 Rxa4 58.Rxf7+ Kc8 59.Nf4 b5 60.Nxe6 Rxc4+ 61.Kd5 a4 62.Ra7 Rc1 63.Nd4 1-0

Carlsen,Magnus **2839**
 Srihari L R **2438**
 Qatar Masters 2023 (1.1) 11.10.2023

A brilliantly played attack, with both white rooks hanging. 1.c4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.g3 Bf5 5.Nc3 e6 6.Nh4

dxc4 7.Nxf5 exf5 8.e3 Bd6 9.Bxc4 0-0
 10.Qf3 g6 11.h3 Qe7 12.0-0 h5
 13.Re1 Ne4 14.g4 hxg4 15.hxg4 Bb4
 16.gxf5 Nxc3 17.bxc3 Bxc3



18.Qg4! Kg7 19.e4! Bxa1 20.Bg5 Qb4
 21.f6+ Kg8 22.Rxa1 Nd7 23.Qh3
 1-0

Suleymenov,Alisher **E12**
 Carlsen,Magnus **2512**
 Qatar Masters 2023 (2.1) 12.10.2023

A spectacular attack brings down the world number one. 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 b6 4.a3 Ba6 5.Qc2 Bb7 6.Nc3 c5 7.e4 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Bc5 9.Nf3 Nc6 10.b4 Be7 11.Bb2 Qb8 12.Rd1 0-0 13.Be2 d6 14.0-0 Rc8 15.Rfe1 Bf8 16.Bf1 Ne7 17.Nb5 Ne8 18.Ng5 Ng6 19.e5 d5 20.Qb3 Be7

(Diagram)



21.Nxf7!! Kxf7 22.cxd5 Bxd5 23.Rxd5!
exd5 24.Qxd5+ Kf8 25.Nd4 Nf4
26.Qf3 Kg8 27.Qxf4 Qb7 28.Nf5 b5
29.Bxb5 Bf8 30.Bc4+ Kh8 31.Nh6
1-0

IM John Donaldson

New Books from New in Chess

Re-Engineering the Chess Classics by Matthew Sadler and Steve Giddins (2023, 440 pages, \$34.95)

The Essential Sosonko by Genna Sosonko (2023, 839 pages, \$59.95)

Spassky's Best Games by Alexey Bezgodov and Dmitry Oleinkov (2023, 279 pages, \$27.95)

Max Euwe's Best Games by Jan Timman (2023, 304 pages, \$29.95)

Endgame Virtuoso Magnus Carlsen Volume 2: The World Champion Shows His Superior Skills (2023, 255 pages, \$24.95)

The Perfect Pirc-Modern by Viktor Moskalenko (2023, 255 pages, \$27.95)

The Open Sicilian by Ivan Saric (2023, 435 pages, \$34.95)

New in Chess www.newchess.com

When one thinks of chess engines, their importance on the opening phase is front and center, but that is not the only part of the game on which they have had an impact. One need only think of tablebases and how endgames with positions of seven or fewer pieces and pawns are now analyzed perfectly.

What many chess players may not realize is that engines' contributions to the development of chess is not confined to the opening and ending as *Re-Engineering the Chess Classics* so clearly demonstrates. Authors Mathew Sadler and Steve Giddins re-examine 35 classic games (some better known than others including game three of the Fischer-Taimanov Candidates match) putting them under the microscope with powerful engines.

Of course, everyone can do this themselves, but interpreting the information is not a simple task. It helps to have a world class player (Sadler) who is well-acquainted with working with silicon oracles and a first-rate instructional writer (Giddins). The result is an interesting book that emphasizes throughout what practical lessons can be learned from the machines. This comes home in the author's postscript where they summarize their findings. Among the lessons learned are the following pieces of wisdom:

1. Avoid passive pieces!
2. Grab Space!
3. Use your rook's pawns.
4. Small advantages don't always win!
5. Use the whole board!
6. Be an absolute tactical genius, who never misses anything!

Engineering the Chess Classics is a fascinating book that deserves a wide audience. Players rated 1800 on up will find it worthwhile reading.

The list of books that can be recommended to all chess players from beginners to grandmasters is short. *The Essential Sosenko*, an omnibus of the writings of Genna Sosenko, is one such work. This massive (839 pages!) and beautiful hardback feature insights on such giants as world champions Max Euwe, Mikhail Botvinnik, Vassily Smyslov, Mikhail Tal, Boris Spassky, and Garry Kasparov.

Sosenko's specialty is recreating for the reader what life was like for top level players during the years of the Soviet Union. This is particularly true for the 1950s to the 1980s when this country dominated the chess world as no nation has before or since.

This collection features a number of articles that first appeared in *New in Chess* Magazine, the Dutch language magazine *Matten*, and various other publications.

Anyone with an interest in chess history will enjoy this book which would make the perfect birthday or holiday gift.

Boris Spassky is one of the few world champions of the 20th Century not to write a book of their best games so *Spassky's Best Games* by Alexey Bezgodov and Dmitry Oleinkov (with several annotations by Dmitry Kryakin) helps fill a gap in the chess literature.

Part biography (based in part on the authors conversations with Spassky) and part game collection, it covers the career of a player who is best remembered for losing a world championship match to Bobby Fischer, but who between 1964 and 1968 won six Candidates matches, tied for first in an Interzonal, and won the Second Piatigorsky Cup.

Spassky's Best Games is currently the best combination biography/games collections on this giant of chess history.

Continuing with World Champions, New in Chess has also published *Max Euwe's Best Games*, Jan Timman's tribute to his great predecessor. Odds are likely that if a vote were held today to determine who was the weakest World Champion of the 20th Century, it would be Euwe. He might also be the winner for best FIDE President.

The logic follows that while Euwe was well-respected by his peers, he would not have beaten Alekhine in their first World Championship match if the latter was sober. Top players do not share this view. Timman believes that Euwe was a worthy World Champion and in that opinion, he is joined by Smyslov and Kasparov. The latter notes paradoxically that although Euwe was always an amateur, he was in fact one of the first professional players. This is a testament to Euwe's organizational skills and ability to balance his time well. He was a very busy man.

Euwe wrote a book of his best games that was translated into English, but it ends in 1937. Timman's efforts, motivated partly by a desire to honor the man who put Dutch chess on the map and also by a curiosity to discover just how strong his predecessor was, is most welcome.

One of the many things I learned while reading this book is that Geza Maroczy, temporarily exiled from his homeland, was the 18-year-old Euwe's teacher just after World War I. The Hungarian was truly a trainer of champions as just a few years later he coached Vera Menchik at a key stage in her development.

Timman has analyzed 80 of Euwe's best games in depth, with a mixture of prose commentary and analysis as needed. This book, like all Timman has written, is a pleasure to read and deserves a warm welcome.

The ability to play endgames requires two key qualities. First and foremost is a mastery of theoretical endgames characterized by positions with few pawns and pieces on the board. Second is the skill to play non-theoretical endings well. The former can be learned from the many excellent endgame handbooks currently available (Dvoretsky, de la Villa, etc.). The latter, which could be described as practical endgames, require keeping a knowledge of theoretical endgames in one's back pocket while playing positions with more pawns and pieces on the board, using general endgame skills to guide oneself.

There is no more skilled player in these types of endgames than Magnus Carlsen, who has possibly passed Anatoly Karpov as the greatest ever in this area. The man best in a position to judge is the noted author and trainer Tibor Karolyi who has written entire books devoted to these players' skill in the endgame. The one on Carlsen was confined to the years 1999-2017 and now the Hungarian international master is back with a companion volume dedicated to the years 2018-2022 and is titled *Endgame Virtuoso Magnus Carlsen*.

104 of Carlsen's games from the past few years are put under the microscope and they feature all types of endgames. His ability to win games from dead equal positions is nothing short of miraculous and there is no question that studying how he does this will pay big dividends. Highly recommended.

Viktor Moskalenko has a justly deserved reputation as an enthusiastic and inspirational writer and his latest effort, a new edition of *The Perfect Pirc-Modern*, is written along these lines. About the third of the book is devoted to the Austrian Attack (**1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 g6 4.f4 Bg7 5.Nf3** and now both **5...c5** and **5...0-0**) with the remainder devoted to various White setups including **3.Bd3** and **3.Nd2**. There is a small amount of coverage of the Modern (**1.e4 g6**).

Typically, Moskalenko devotes himself to one or two lines against each White try. Against the Classical he offers both a well-known line (**1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 g6 4.Nf3 Bg7 5.Be2 0-0 6.0-0 Bg4**) and something a little less common (**6...Nc6 7.d5 Nb8** and **7...Ne5** plus **6...c5** – the latter from White's point of view). All told, Moskalenko uses 42 well-annotated model games to make his case that the Pirc is very much alive and well.

Last but certainly not least is *The Open Sicilian* by Ivan Saric, the Croatian top 100 player (rated over 2700 a few years ago). In advocating for meeting the Sicilian with **3.d4** (in almost all cases) he follows a well-trodden path walked before by Negi, Shaw, de la Villa, Illingworth, and others. Saric's task is more difficult as he comes last, and the past few years have seen theory develop exponentially. Can he do so in a single volume work that is only a little over 400 pages? And can he do so in a way that will not include having to update large sections in the next year?

The answers are yes and maybe. Saric, who did a Chessable course upon which this beautiful hardback book is based, has selected a repertoire that is sound and packs a punch.

Najdorf (**6.f3**)

Dragon (**9.0-0-0**)

Classical (**6.Bg5**)

Kan (**5.Bd3**)

Sveshnikov (**7.Nd5**)

Taimanov (**5.Nc3 Qc7 6.Be3 a6 7.a3**)

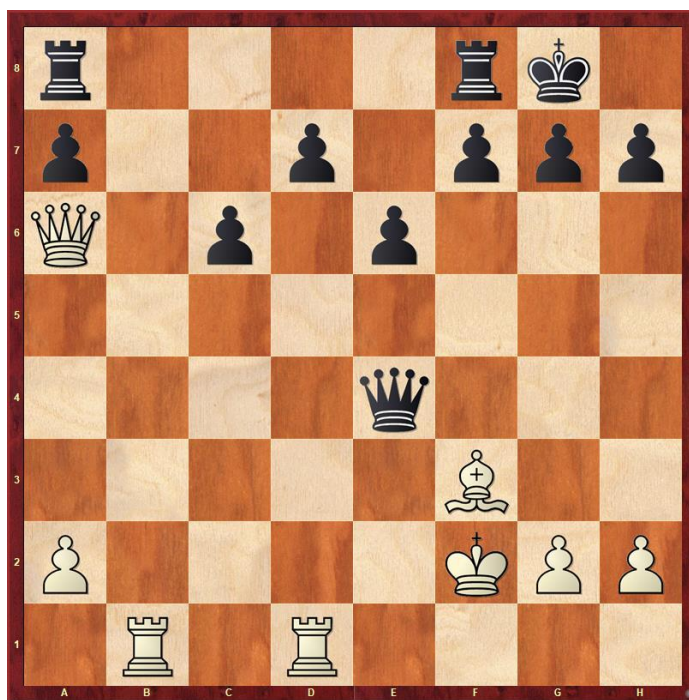
Accelerated Dragon (**5.c4**)

Four Knights (**6.Nxc6**)

The latter recommendation caught my eye. It's consistent with the repertoire as **1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e5 6.Ndb5 d6 7.Nd5** is the recommendation in the Sveshnikov. Note that **6.Ndb5** in the Four Knights would walk into **6...d6 7.Bf4 e5 8.Bg5** – the main line of the Sveshnikov but not what we play.

6.Nxc6 doesn't have that problem, but after **6...bxc6 7.e5 Nd5 8.Ne4** we have reached a position that is popular and in which the theory is developing quickly.

One recent example is Dominguez-Guseinov, Baku 2023, played in early August in the World Cup. After **8...Qc7 9.f4 Qb6 10.c4 Ne3 11.Qd3 Bb4+ 12.Bd2 Ba6** (a sideline in Saric's book which considers **12...0-0** the main line) **13.Bxb4!** (punctuation is Saric's) **13...Qxb4 + 14.Kf2 Qxb2+ 15.Be2 Nxc4 16.Rab1 Nxe5 17.fxe5 Qxe5 18.Qxa6 Qxe4 19.Rhd1! 0-0 20.Bf3.**



20...Qf5 (Saric gives **20..Qc2+ 21.Kg1**).

The Croatian grandmaster's assessment of the position holds true after both moves: "White has a bishop for four pawns, but the pawns are vulnerable, especially the d7 pawn that holds Black's position together. If White manages to capture on d7, he will have excellent winning chances."

Those who want to meet the Sicilian with **3.d4** will find this book most helpful in developing a repertoire.

In Memoriam: Jeremy Silman (1954-2023)

Sometime way back in 1974, I took a walk across the Golden Gate Park Panhandle in San Francisco's Haight-Ashbury District to study chess with Jeremy Silman, a friend and chess master.

Along with my brother Jay, I had been playing for a couple of years and was totally chess-mad. Every weekday we were down at Mechanics' Institute from morning to night, and on the weekends we were playing in tournaments. I had a school friend or two, but most of my friends were chess players. My brother and I had come on strong into the chess world – young, brash, and full of ourselves, we were nevertheless welcomed whole-heartedly by the chess community.

Jeremy Silman had become a family friend. I don't recall when we first met, but I have a photograph of him at my 14th birthday party, so I met him sometime in my 13th year, and Jeremy would have been 19 or 20.

I had started playing in 1972 and had reached Expert level in 1974, but my progress had stalled. I felt my destiny was to be a Chess Master, and perhaps taking up Silman's offer to study at his house would lead to the breakthrough I so desperately wanted. I could never have guessed, on entering his flat on Fell Street, just what a turning point this would end up being for me.

I was ushered into a large room, lit only by candles, with incense perfuming the air. There was not a stick of furniture in the room, only a rug centered on the floor, and centered on that rug: a wooden chess board, a wooden chess set, and a great pile of chess books.

I felt awed, as though I had come to a Holy place, a place where chess was worshiped – a hidden Sanctuary of Chess, where I was the Novice, and Silman the Master.

Then he put The Tubes on the record player.

While "White Punks on Dope" blasted out of the speakers, Jeremy offered me tea. I don't recall him ever drinking coffee, certainly not alcohol. In fact, despite wild tales of excess from those that knew him – and from Jeremy himself! – I found him, remarkably, to be the most abstemious of my friends.

And although I can't remember what kind of chess we studied that afternoon, that's really beside the point. I can only remember my feelings at the time: this was the kind of life I wanted to lead, a life devoted to doing what I loved, whatever it might be.

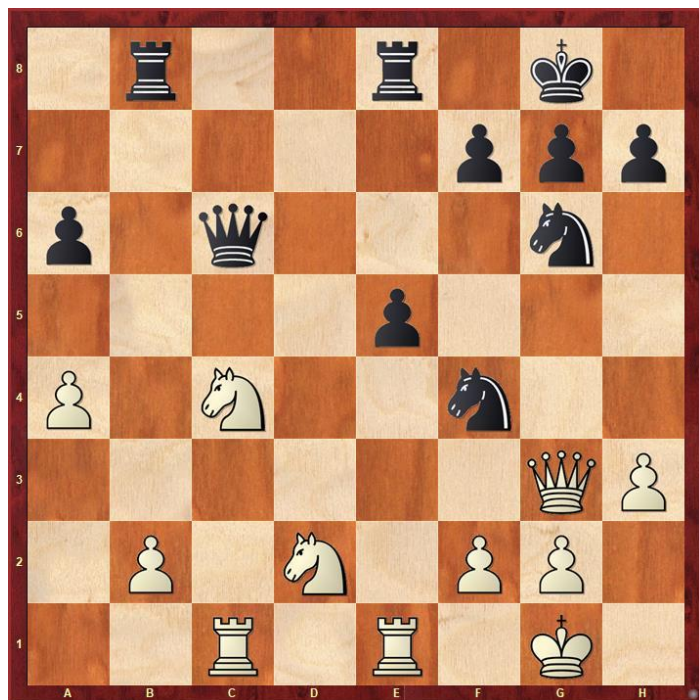
We remained good friends, and through the years I stayed in touch with Jeremy, and followed his life: success as a player, author and teacher, and as a happily married man. As I write these words in memory of Jeremy, who passed away September 21, this wonderful [remembrance](#) of the legendary Steve Brandwein, penned by Jeremy, sprang immediately and inevitably to mind.

What a writer! What a chess player! What an amazing friend and inspiration!

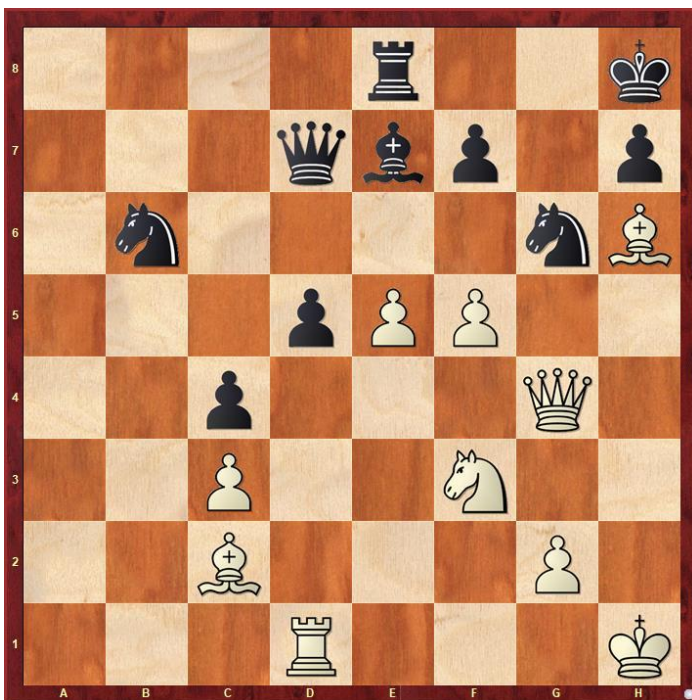
– Paul Whitehead

Tactics ala Silman

From Jeremy's games. Find the winning move.
Solutions below.



1. Black to move.



2. White to move.



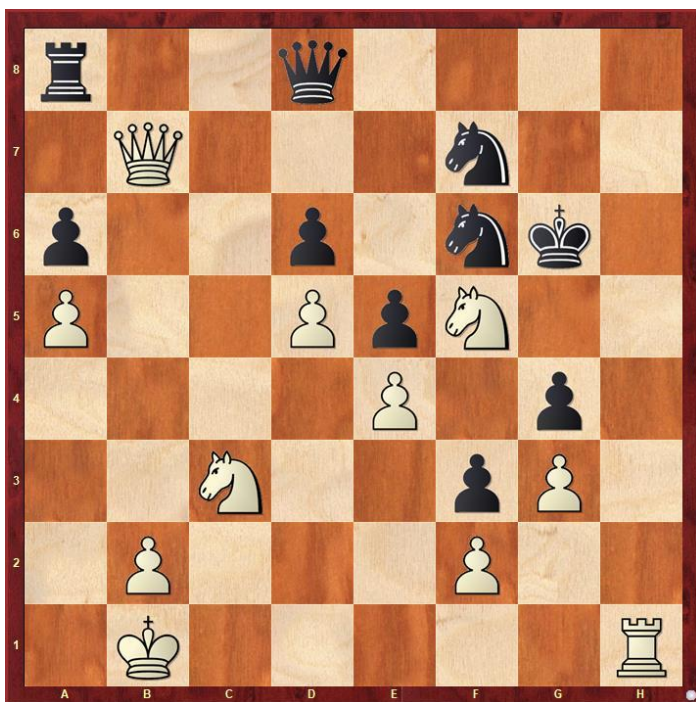
3. Black to move.



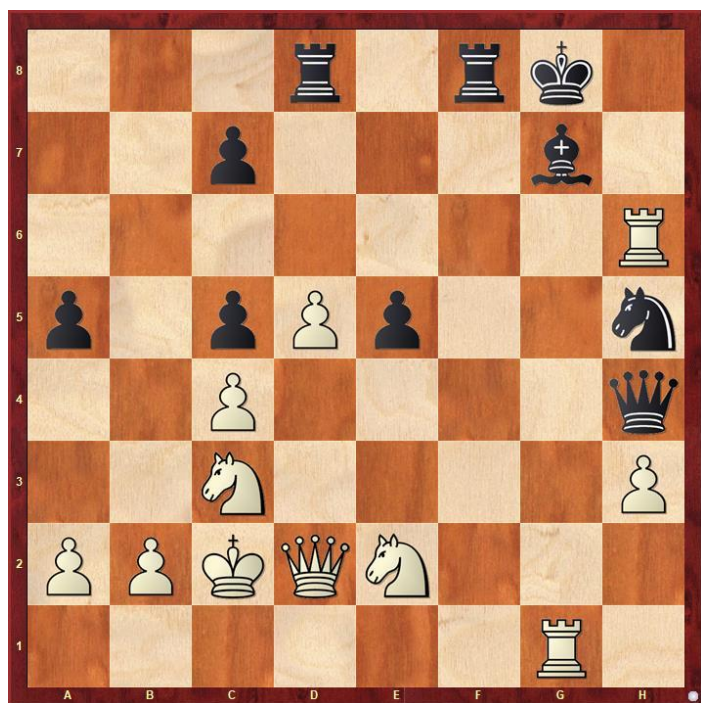
4. White to move.



5. White to move.



6. White to move.



7. White to move.



8. White to move.

Outdoor Chess Returns to San Francisco!

Mechanics' Institute is partnering with [Downtown San Francisco Partnership](#) to bring chess activation to Mechanics' Monument Plaza, located on Market Street between Bush and Front. We are thrilled to provide public chess engagement on Thursdays between 12:00-1:00 pm, where everyone is welcome to join a game on the giant chess set and pick up a casual over-the-board game with a friend or coworker (or meet someone new!). You can also try to solve the deceptively difficult weekly puzzle alongside city ambassadors Jerrold and Zuriel, newly minted puzzle enthusiasts.



We want to extend our thanks to Robbie Silver, Executive Director, and Claude Imbault, Deputy Director, of Downtown SF Partnership for collaborating with Mechanics' Institute to bring chess to all. Downtown SF Partnership is a nonprofit community benefit district working to enhance the downtown core through public/private partnerships, placemaking, activating the public realm, clean and safe operations, marketing support, and more.



Join Mechanics' Institute at Mechanics' Plaza on Thursdays from 12:00-1:00 pm for chess ~ we'll see you there!

[Here](#) is the write-up in the *San Francisco Chronicle*.

Richard Hack

Tales from the Chess Café

"Every higher expression of harmony produces a profound aesthetic impression. It arouses enthusiasm and generates ideas of the beautiful."

–Peter Romanovsky, *Soviet Middlegame Technique*, Chapter 11, "The Aesthetics of Combination: General Concepts." From *Quality Chess*, 2013, a combination of two 20th-century books, one on middlegame planning and the other on combinations.

Chess! The open mystery of the 64 squares and 32 pieces.... Chop, chop, and counting! The recap of events in both sections of the World Junior Championships in Mexico City included a line about how a little mistake can keep a competitor off the list of prizewinners.

At the Café everything is self-serve.

"Not so much a masterpiece as the last game," said Merlin when his game came up 2nd in line on screen share on September 18. He is humble and quietly assertive, graced with a sense of humor and a willingness to comment. He often brings in online games of his that elicit interest. One inspired comment, "Now Merlin is merciless!" We also watched a game or two by Arnold Denker. Sophia: "In our chess class, draw is a 4-letter word." A draw by Peter Biyiasis as White, locking up the queenside. Paul: "Putting all his eggs in one basket on the kingside. Mike: "White normally wouldn't do that [move a pawn to a5 interlocking two chains of 3 pawns each] unless both his rooks were already on the kingside."

It was mentioned that Hans Niemann won a settlement and dismissed his lawsuit. He's giving away some for scholarships. Charles: "Did they pay money?" Sophia: "I'm pretty sure they did. Exposing a minor's record. Why do they keep doing this to junior players? They should be off a platform for a while [if they commit such an offense], maybe 6 months." Hans eliminated Kramnik this morning. "He also played over 100 people, kids and everyone, on Saturday in the park." "Kramnik himself was accused of cheating." "Piers Morgan was very rude to Hans. It was terrible. Kudos to Hans for putting up with it." "I hear they pay guests to go on that show."

Ruth Haring put a lot of good people in the women's section of USCF. "Chess is becoming decentralized. Moving into bars and other clubs." "It was getting too commercialized. We need more than just an elite club. Recently we had the under-2800 world championship match."

For commercialization, check out this overdone promo copy: The format "promises heart-stopping drama," and "The Armageddon Championship Series Grand Finale boasts an unprecedented prize fund that underscores the significance of this chess event, with remarkable rewards for participants.... An electrifying experience is guaranteed for viewers of the Grand Finale, complete with thrilling battles between women and men, and an array of captivating features. These include real-time tracking of players' heart rates and expended calories, alongside lightning-fast moves and cutting-edge analysis."

<https://en.chessbase.com/post/armageddon-grand-final>

On September 25, Paul advised a player whose game we looked at: "It's e4-d4 versus a6-b5. Just play normally, don't try to destroy them. One little piece at a time. Don't try to grab too much, just keep your lead in development."

Later: "Why does 3. Nd2 have Tarrasch's name on it?" "Maybe because he played a lot against the IQP, which may appear here." "In the Tarrasch Defense to the Queen's Gambit, Smyslov's or Flohr's games are good for the White side of IQP's, Kasparov's games for the Black side."

"It's always a struggle between the static features like the IQP and the dynamic ones. Bronstein called them hedgehogs and foxes." Trish mentioned that he probably got that from Isaiah Berlin's little book *The Hedgehog and the Fox* (1953). I looked it up and found explanations like these: " 'The fox knows many things, but the hedgehog knows one big thing.' This ancient Greek aphorism, preserved in a fragment from the poet Archilochus, describes the central thesis of Isaiah Berlin's masterly essay on Leo Tolstoy and the philosophy of history, the subject of the epilogue to *War and Peace*." From a posting about the book on Amazon. I never learned Greek, but for our Latin scholars, another search adds, "In the *Adagia* of Erasmus from 1500, the expression is recorded as *Multa novit vulpes, verum echinus unum magnum*." Here's one more: "What is the Hedgehog Concept? This concept is a business strategy framework developed by Jim Collins, the author of the book *Good to Great*. It is based on pursuing your passion, focusing on your core strengths, and creating something unique."

There was discussion of the hedgehog motif in the Semi-Tarrasch and the Gruenfeld Reversed. We saw a game Keene-Miles, which Keene won with a great attack during the time he became Britain's strongest GM. Later Miles assumed that role. We looked at the structure Nc6-Nf6-Be7 with pawns at d5 and c5 for Black, and Nc3-Nf3-g3-Bg2 and pawn at b3, which defends c4 well. "Kasparov had a lot of such games with Karpov."

When Paul mentioned that Mike was playing Frederic Dutter ("Dooter") the following day in the TNM, we heard that when he was rated 2100, Dutter played a Fischer-Sozin against Walter Browne's Sicilian and got ahead of Browne early and maintained the edge, resulting in a draw. Paul mentioned that Dutter is the subject of a documentary on YouTube, when he was living in Petaluma, an expert trying to become a master.

Fritz and the Comeback — A film by Gabriel G. Adams. There is a full 20-minute production on Vimeo and a trailer lasting 1:32 on YouTube, from which Frederic states, "It's really my only motivation." Another voice: "Definitely. Chess is your medium." "When I get at a chess board, I'm in a different world," he says in a speculative tone; "and I feel at home. I'm not bragging, there's no ego here. When I get at a chess board, I feel my soul's there.... The most important thing about chess is loving — loving to play the art.... Chess is theory, not fantasy." He says he wants to win one more tournament.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XCkiWjJrD2Q>

IM Jeremy Silman, a leading writer, player, and teacher recently passed on after a long struggle. Paul showed two of his early losses to Silman (Berkeley '76 and Sunnyvale '77). He was a 16-year-old master, and Silman, 22, was one of his mentors. "In those days when I had to play a positional game, I tended to fall apart." Mike: "Modern theory can move a piece twice in the opening, which is hard to adapt to when you were raised on the idea of economy in development." Silman was very active here in the '70s before moving to L.A. "No reason to play 22...f5. I still have my house to take care of here. White is basically up a worthless pawn.... 37...Bxc4 is a bad move which leaves all my pawns weak." In their second game, 34...Kf8!! was singled out, but 35. Bxc5! won the queen at e4. "Silman had me completely hypnotized that day."

The busy Elliott arrived at 5:20. Paul asked him about the memorial for Richard Shorman. "It was really good." One of his most famous students, Vinay Bhat, was there. We heard that Shorman was imbued with knowledge of philosophy, especially Eastern and Indian. To a lot of people he was more of a guru than a chess teacher. He had a great appeal as a person. He liked gambits, and told people

not to rush into trying to be a good player: “Just be a good bad player. People want to be grandmasters, but they have to master the game first.” “He was a little guy with a big camera.”

There is a full long life to read about online. A few lines: “He was known for his tactical and aggressive approach to chess, which he developed and taught to thousands of past and current students. His impact went beyond chess as he also imparted valuable life lessons.... At the age of 15, Richard read his first book on chess and soon started playing at the Oakland YMCA Chess Club, run by George Koltanowski.... He co-instigated the renowned Cherryland Café from 1962 to 1977, where Harold James provided a place and Richard provided the chess and his trademark dry wit.” In the Army, he learned Russian at the Defense Language Institute in Monterey. Later he helped Koltanowski with his daily column in the *Chronicle*, which was syndicated for half a century. A player rated in the 1600s and 1700s, he made a lasting mark in chess and with people.

legacy.com/us/obituaries/legacyremembers/richard-shorman-obituary?id=52963599

On October 2, Paul told us he went up to Bernal Chess on Saturday, September 30. Juliana, who helped start the group and maintains the website, mentioned their chess lectures at the Bernal Heights branch library on 4th Fridays: “These are getting really good.”

Alexey said she was coming to Oakland on Thursday and would be going to the Berkeley Chess School, which of course has regular Friday night tournaments and others. People are also developing a U.S. Senior Women’s Championship, which will run parallel to the U.S. Senior Championship. The new event, perhaps a trial run, is set for November 3-5.

Ray Freeman often brings tough puzzles to the Café and appeared today in a 2023 set-to versus Checkov. “This looks like a 10-minute game to me.” “I think he was desperate because he saw the move I missed, Qe6.” Ray eventually had a Q and 2 R’s vs. Q and B, but a three-fold repetition of moves drew for Black: “It was fun.”

We saw the 4th-round Fall TNM game Walder-Dutter that had been announced the previous week. Instead of 11. f4, Mike moved Nf3. At move 27, he says, he should have played f5 instead of Bd5. He was winning, but blundered and got a draw after 47 moves. Paul: “What’s the moral of this game?” Mike: “When you see a good move, stop—there may be a better one. I missed his saving move, 33... Rd1.”

We had another excellent puzzle from Gadir Guseinov, and another from Giri that was posted on Twitter. Paul figured out the 4-move mating combination that solved one of them.

Quinn Ni, a regular who has been traveling the world, told us she has an audition coming up soon at the Santa Monica Playhouse.

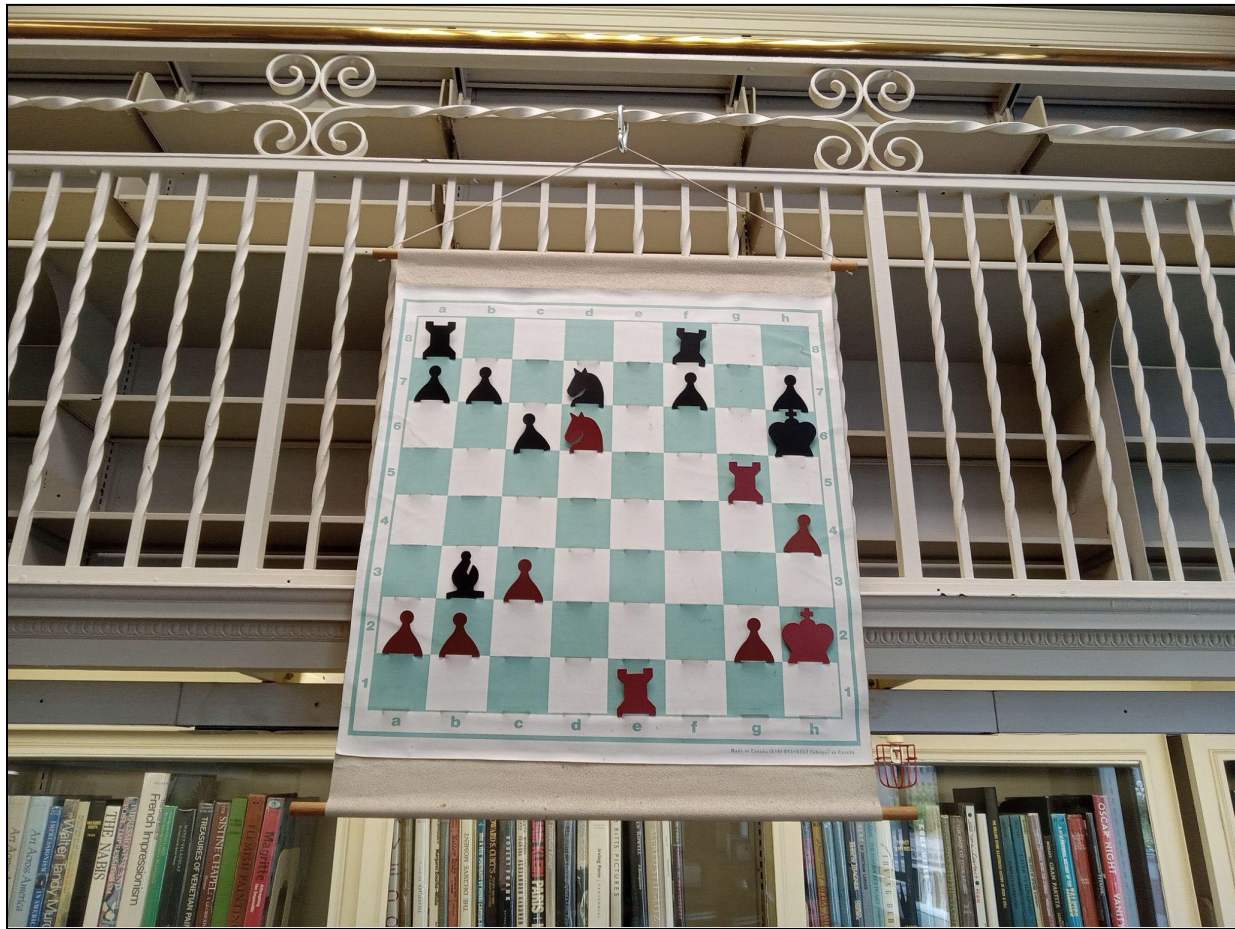
Sophia did not attend this week, but we wished her Happy Birthday!!

Another point made in the Romanovsky book cited at the top: that the motifs and themes of combinations are often a subject of theory and investigation. But theory is unable to say much “on the subject of ideas. If some ideas have been able to be generalized and in some way classified, thousands of them still remain outside the orbit of theory, for ideas are rarely found to be repeatable.”

Editor’s note: The Chess Cafe meets online via Zoom.
You can join the conversation by registering [here](#).

A New Puzzle in the Library

Every week or so Mechanics' Institute's Head of Technical Services, Steven Dunlap, puts up a chess puzzle in the library for our members to solve.



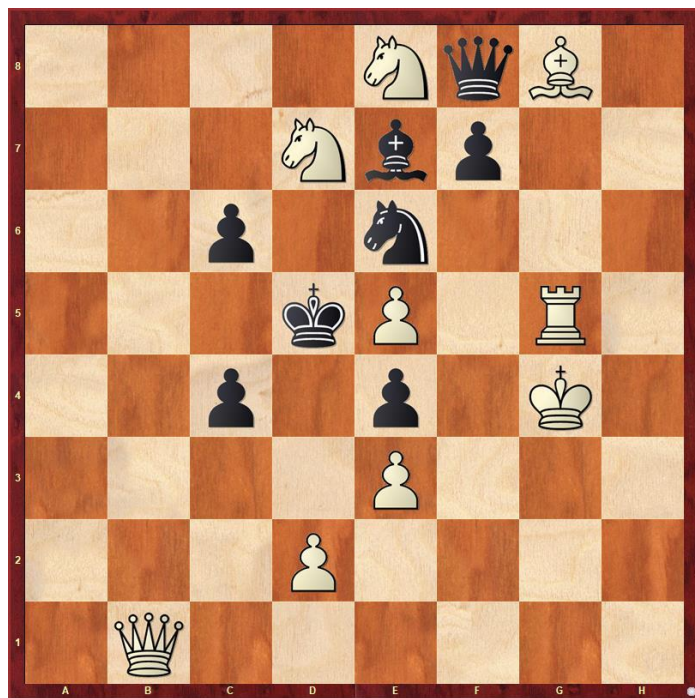
Grandmaster Jesus de la Via describes the knight as “slow but dangerous.” In positions like this players can find themselves bogged down trying to figure out how to mate with their rooks. From *Back to Basics* (2008), by Branislav Francuski.

Solution: 1.Nf5 mate.

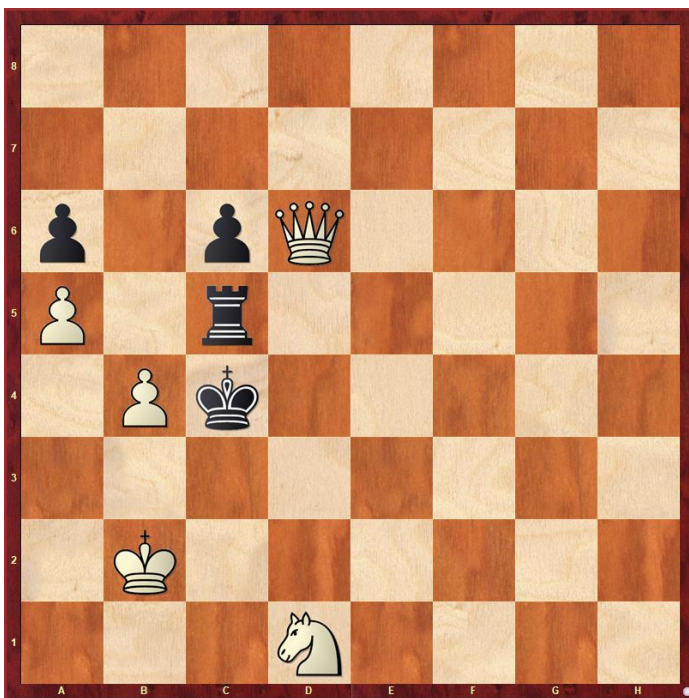
Seeking Scholastic Chess Coaches

Are you interested in joining the team at Mechanics' Institute? The Institute is currently seeking Scholastic Chess Instructors for the upcoming school year. Qualified candidates should have a foundational knowledge of chess and should be familiar with or willing to learn chess instructional techniques. Candidates should also have a basic foundation in classroom management and conflict resolution strategies, particularly working with children. This is an in-person position and candidates must be able to commute to schools in San Francisco. If you're interested follow the link below or reach out to our Chess Program Manager, Alex Robins, at arobins@milibrary.org. [Employment Opportunities | Mechanics' Institute \(milibrary.org\)](https://www.milibrary.org/employment-opportunities)

Tony's Teasers



1. L Jokisch, 1909.
White mates in 2 moves.



2. S. Loyd, 1859.
White mates in 3 moves.

Tournaments, Classes, and Events

Mechanics' Institute offers a wide range of chess tournaments, classes, and special events. Our offerings include a monthly Chess Social, free classes for women and Mechanics' Institute members, an online Chess Café, chess camps for adults and children, and much more.



You can find a list of ongoing and upcoming tournaments [here](#).



Offerings for adults and advanced players can be found [here](#).



Information about scholastic events, camps, and programming can be found [here](#).



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October 2023 Chess Tournaments

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Register for all tournaments at milibrary.org/chess



Thursday Night Rapid Thursday, October 5 7 pm 4 Rounds G/15+2	Members \$30 Non-Members \$40
National Chess Day! Saturday, October 14 Scholastic Swiss, Womens'/Girl's/Gender Expansive Individual's Tournament, Blitz, Quads	Member discounts for all events.
21st St. Amant Memorial Saturday, October 21 10 am 4 Rounds G40;d5	Members \$40 Non-Members \$50
Fast Fall Blitz Tuesday, October 24 7 pm 5 Double-Rounds G/3+2	Members \$30 Non-Members \$40
Full Day Quads Saturday, October 28 10 am 3 Rounds G/60+5	Members \$40 Non-Members \$45



November & December Chess Tournaments

Register for all tournaments at milibrary.org/chess



2nd Irving Chernev Memorial Saturday, November 4 10 am 4 Rounds G/40;d5	Members \$40 Non-Members \$50
Winter Tuesday Night Marathon Tuesdays, November 7-December 19 6:30 pm 7 Rounds G/120;d5	Members \$65 Non-Members \$95
Monthly Scholastic Swiss Saturday, November 11 10 am 4 Rounds G/30;d5	Members \$30 Non-Members \$35
Monthly Quads Saturday, November 11 3 pm 3 Rounds G30;d5	Members \$30 Non-Members \$35
22nd Guthrie McClain Memorial Saturday, December 2 10 am 4 Rounds G/40;d5	Members \$40 Non-Members \$50
Monthly Scholastic Swiss Saturday, December 9 10 am 4 Rounds G/30;d5	Members \$30 Non-Members \$35
Monthly Quads Saturday, December 9 3 pm 3 Rounds G30;d5	Members \$30 Non-Members \$35
5th Donaldson (FIDE-Rated) December 16 & 17 10 am 4 Rounds G/90+30	Members \$65 Non-Members \$95

Free Women's Online Chess Class by FIDE Trainer Sophie Adams



Coached by FIDE Trainer Sophie Adams, this class is for women and girls looking to develop their chess skills with a community of women. Knowledge of piece movements and mates is expected, but not required. Registration is needed so we may send the links for players to join.

**Every Sunday
on Zoom
from
10 am to 12 pm**

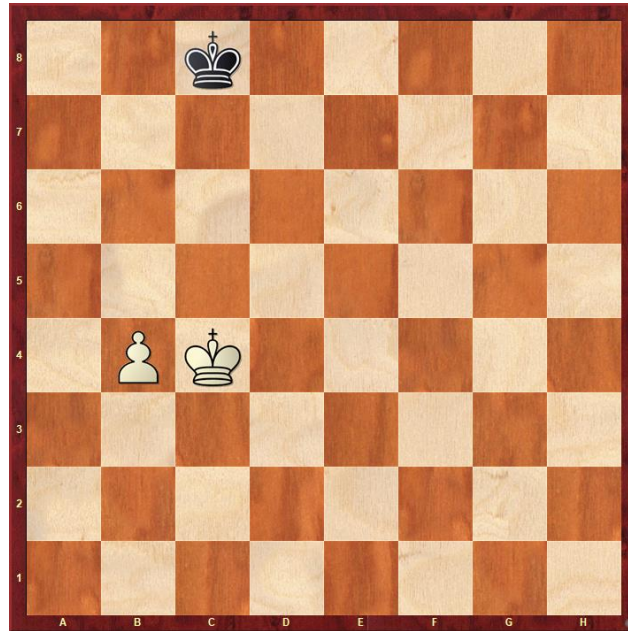
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Endgame Lab

with

FM Paul Whitehead



**Gligoric-Fischer
1959.
Black to play and
draw.**

**November 2 -
December 14, 2023
6 Classes**

**Thursdays in the
Chess Room Annex
4th Floor
5:30 pm - 6:30 pm**

**Register here:
milibrary.org/chess**

In this six week course, FM Paul Whitehead will lead a discussion covering basic and intermediate endings, including reviewing the participant's knowledge of basic checkmates, principals and terminology – opposition, centralization, zugzwang. We will discuss and review the theory and practice of king and pawn endings, rook endings, minor piece endings, queen endings, and various material imbalances.

chessroom@milibrary.org

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**MECHANICS'
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Solutions

Tony's Teasers:

1. **L Jokisch**, 1909. **1.d3!** Threatens 2.dxe4#. **1...Nxb5** (1...cxd3 2.Qb3#. 1...exd3 2.Qh1#. 1...c5 2.Qb7#. 1...f5 2.exf6#.) **2.Nc7#**.
 2. **S. Loyd**, 1859. **1.Kc2! Kxb4+** (1...Rd5 2.Nb2+ Kd4 - or 2...Kb5 3.Qb8# - 3.Qf4#) **2.Nc3! Kc4** (If 2...Kxa5 or 2...Ka3 then 3.Qxc5#.) **3.Qf4#**.
-

Tactics ala Silman:

1. **De Firmian - Silman**, Lone Pine 1976. A tactical fire-storm was initiated after **1...Nh4! 2.Ne4 Nhxg2 3.Ncd6! Nxe1**. Here White could have held with 4.Rxc6! Ne2+ 5.Kh2 Nxb3 6.Ndxe8 Nf1+ 7.Kg1 Rxb2 8.Kxf1 Nd3 9.Rxa6 gxf6=. Instead **4.Nxh7+?** led to material loss after **4....Ke7! 5.Nf5+ Kd7 6.Rxe1 Qg6 7.Ng5 Qxg5! 0-1**.
 2. **Silman - Johnsen**, London 1978. **1.e6!** is crushing. **1...fxe6 2.Qd4+** (2.fxe6 is also good) **2...e5 3.Nxe5 1-0**.
 3. **Balinas - Silman**, Lone Pine 1979. One hammer-blow follows another: **1...Nxd3!** (1...Nbc2?! 2.Bxd4 is only slightly better for black) **2.Bxd4** (2.Qxd3 Nf3+! or 2.Rf1 b5!) **2...Bxd4 3.Re2 b5! 4.Nc3 Nxb2! 5.Qc2 Nb4 6.Nxb5 Bxa1 7.Qxa4 a6 0-1**.
 4. **Silman - McCambridge**, San Francisco 1982. **1.Qxd2!! Bxd2 2.Nd5+ Bxc1 3.Nxe7+ 1-0**. White comes out a piece ahead.
 5. **Silman - Bonin**, New York 1987. **1.h4+! Kxh4** (1...Kg6 2.Qg8+) **2.Qd8+ 1-0**.
 6. **Silman - Lakdawala**, 1989. **1.Rh6+! 1-0**. 1...Nxh6 2.Qg7#. Or 1...Kg5 2.Qxf7.
 7. **Silman - Petranovich**, Santa Monica 1989. **1.Rg5! 1-0**.
 8. **Silman - MacFarland**, Reno 1991. **1.Bf6!! 1-0**. Mate is forced: 1...gxf6 (1...Rg8 also loses in spectacular fashion: 2.Qxg7+!! Rxb7 3.Rd8+ Rxd8 4.Rxd8#) 2.exf6 Rg8 3.Rd8! (Threatens 4.Qg7#) 3...Rxd8 4.Rxd8 Rxd8 5.Qg7#.
-

Contact Us

The Mechanics' Institute Chess Club is on the 4th floor at 57 Post Street, San Francisco, CA.
Our phone number is (415) 393-0110.

We welcome any feedback, articles, or "Letter to the Editor" piece. Submit yours today at
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With more than 3,000 books and periodicals, Mechanics' Institute boasts one of the largest chess book collections in the U.S.



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5-6pm

First Fridays of the month:

November 3

December 1

Unwind from the week with fellow chess players. We'll have rousing game replays on the big screen, snacks, and lively conversation. Wine available for purchase in the Meeting Room provided before the CinemaLit program. Stick around for CinemaLit at 6pm!

Questions?

Contact chessroom@milibrary.org

